Paris, Friday, December 16, 1994



A Besieged Berlusconi Wants Parliament to

By John Tagliabue

New York Times Service ROME - Prime Minister Silvio Berlusconi called Thursday for a vote of confidence in his government next week to establish whether a revolt by one his coalition partners meant that his government was, in effect, dead.

In an apparent effort to salvage his be-leaguered administration, Mr. Berlusconi met Thursday night with President Oscar Luigi Scalfaro. At the same time, the prime minister's spokesman, Jas Gawronski, announced that Mr. Berlusconi, following a speech to Parliament next Wednesday. would tell the legislators, "You decide."

Germani (2- the

The decision was evidently made after one of the pillars of the government alli-ance, the separatist Northern League, ignored coalition unity on Wednesday to vote with the opposition Popular Party and the Party of the Democratic Left in favor of a television oversight board. The issue is sensitive to Mr. Berlusconi, whose ownership of three of Italy's largest and most popular private television channels has been a source of frequent criticism.

Mr. Berlusconi will address the legislators after they have approved a 1995 budget bill which, though watered down, is expected to revive at least some confidence on financial markets. In recent months, markets have shed the lira and lira-denominated securities, despite a fairly buoyant Italian economy, as the weaknesses within the government have become increasingly

The prime minister, whose three-group

Decide Coalition's Fate coalition — the Northern League, the neo-fascist National Alliance, and Mr. Berluscom's own Forza Italia movement - came to power after national elections in March, appeared to usher in a new era in Italian politics, after government corruption investigations had destroyed much of Italy's

old governing elite. But the present political wrangling has injected a note of opaqueness into political affairs easily rivaling, if not surpassing, that of the recent past.

Even as the breaking of ranks by the Northern League appeared to challenge the prime minister's authority, Mr. Berlus-com's decision to stake the future of his government on a parliamentary vote, and his encounter with the president Thursday night, appeared to reflect a resolve to hang onto office, or at least to be able to form a new cabinet under his leadership, if the present political arrangement collapses.

Mr. Berlusconi's weakness stems in part from the decision by anti-corruption magistrates in Milan to investigate him for bribes that officials of his Fininvest business empire are said to have paid tax officials in exchange for favorable audits.

On Tuesday, Mr. Berlusconi was questioned in Milan for seven hours by the investigators, who must now decide whether to drop the charges against him, to indict or to investigate further.

Italian television reported that at a meeting with Forza Italia legislators late Wednesday, Mr. Berlusconi voiced the belief that he would be indicted.

In part, the current crisis was set off by See ITALY, Page 4



Chechen troops readying a grenade launcher Thursday west of Grozny as Russia massed armor outside the rebel capital.

Yeltsin Gives Chechnya 2 More Days To Surrender

Russian Offers to Talk With Secessionists as Troops' Advance Slows

By Alessandra Stanley

New York Times Service MOSCOW - With Russian troops surrounding the capital of Chechnya and the breakaway republic's leader promising a holy war against the Russian invaders, President Boris N. Yeltsin blinked Thursday night and postponed for two days his threat to storm the besieged capital, Groz-

In a statement addressed to the Chechen people, Mr. Yeltsin said he would set aside his Dec. 15 deadline and give the forces loyal to President Dzhokar Dudayev another 48 hours to disarm. He offered to send a higher-level delegation to resume failed truce talks, provided that Mr. Du-dayev personally headed up the Chechen

Shortly before Mr. Yeltsin's statement, Mr. Dudayev held a news conference in Grozny in which he, too, called for high-level talks to resolve the conflict. Mr. Dudayev said he welcomed "negotiations at the highest level," but then suggested that Russian soldiers would have to withdraw from Chechen territory before such talks could begin. It was that condition that brought earlier negotiations to a standstill.

Mr. Yeltsin also seemed to be clinging to his desire that Chechen forces disarm be-fore a Russian withdrawal. Saying that he would view a voluntary cease-fire as "a manifestation of goodwill," he added, "It is essential that heavy guns fall silent and then be surrendered within the set time limit,"

Whatever the fate of peace talks, the delay of an all-out war was as much a reprieve for Mr. Yeltsin as it was for his Chechen opponent.

Russian troops have been met with fierce resistance, and their advances to-ward the city Thursday were impeded by a thick fog. It was not clear that the military was ready to seize Grozny after the original deadline elapsed.

And it was also a personal respite, Ever since Mr. Yeltsin sent in hundreds of tanks and thousands of troops Sunday to bring the secessionist republic to heel, the Russian president appeared to be in the state of political free fall, attacked from nearly all sides for driving the country to the brink of political crisis and possibly establishing a pretense for the creation of a neoauthoritarian regime. "The constitution does not arrive in tanks," a front-page

See YELTSIN, Page 4

Morgan Stanley and Warburg Call Off Banking Mega-Merger

By Erik Ipsen

LONDON - Plans to create one of the world's largest investment banks hit the rocks on Thursday as Morgan Stanley of the United States and S.G. Warburg of Britain stunned the market by calling off the \$6.8 billion merger they

had announced only a week ago. in the wounds. "The fact that two archproponents of takeovers and two of the world's leading advisers to corporations cannot get together themselves has to be a major embarrassment," said one Lon-

As it turned out, the sticking point proved to be Warburg's fund manageent arm, Mercury Asset Management. The owners of a 25 percent stake not held by Warburg insisted on a better deal, a condition that Morgan Stanley on

Having spent recent days talking up the mutual benefits of the merger and the enhanced global reach that it would give them, executives of both firms now face the thorny task of damage control. In a statement issued just after the deal was aborted, Morgan Stanley's president, John Mack, seemed to be doing just that.

"We have never been in a more favorable competitive position than we are today," no castaco. et of the

undeniably be felt more by Warburg. Morgan Stanley's chairman, Richard Fisher, wistfully called the abortive merger Thursday "a unique opportunity to accelerate our progress" and to fashion a "preeminent global franchise." In the absence of that opportunity, analysts agree that Morgan Stanley has the resources to continue pushing toward its goal independently, although more slow-

ty thin the merger would have allowed. is far smaller. "In announcing the merger. Warburg had tacitly signaled its inability to compete in the global marketsaid a disgruntled analyst.

In spite of the failed merger, however, most observers agreed that the consolidation in the industry that it foreshadowed would continue. Having as much as admitted that it was too small to pursue an independent strategy in global financial markets, Warburg will ulti-

Candidates for such an acquisition See WARBURG, Page 4

NATO Discourages Carter Trip to Bosnia

BRUSSELS - The NATO secretarygeneral, Willy Claes, dismissed on Thursday a peace plan by the Bosnian Serbian leader, Radovan Karadzic, and sought to discourage Jimmy Carter, the former U.S. president, from acting as an intermediary.

"I do not see any indication of a peace plan. This is just an elaboration of points." Mr. Claes said at a news conference after a two-day meeting of alliance defense minis-

"I do not believe that if there is a willingness for a cease-fire there is a need for an intermediary," he added.

Mr. Karadzic told American television

Klosk

Chunnel Car Service

To Start on Thursday

nel Tunnel operator Eurotunnel has

received the go-ahead to run its Le Shuttle service for vehicles and their

Eurotunnel was to announce prices

The service, which transports peo-

ple and cars under the Channel, is the final piece in the jigsaw of Eurotunnel

rail services, which have been dogged

by delays and embarrassing mishaps.

Page 4.

Page 4.

Page 21.

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LONDON (Reuters) - The Chan-

"I am happy to report that President

Carter is coming very soon to see us," Mr. Karadzic said in an interview with CNN from his headquarters in Pale, Bosnia. The U.S. State Department said that the

government had offered to help transport Mr. Carter to Bosnia if the former president should decide to go.

CNN reported earlier that Mr. Carter was very likely to take a commercial flight to Europe on Saturday and that a U.S. military plane would then fly him to Bos-

Mr. Claes said that NATO supported a

on Thursday that Mr. Carter would begin his mission soon.

peace plan drawn up by the five-nation "contact group" on former Yugoslavia. The U.S. secretary of defense, Wilham J.

Perry, said at a separate news conference that past experience of Serbian peace offers made him skeptical of Mr. Karadzic's latest proposals.

But he did not suggest - as Mr. Claes did - that Mr. Carter should not act as a

Mr. Perry said that Mr. Carter had not been appointed by President Bill Clinton as a special envoy and would not carry a message from the U.S. government. Mr. Carter brokered a deal paving the

See CARTER, Page 4

JAPANESE WAILING — Rieko Anase, a Tokyo housewife, turning up

Muslim Summit Threatens Sanctions on Serbian Allies

CASABLANCA, Morocco - Muslim heads of state, wrapping up a summit meeting here on Thursday, threatened economic measures against countries that

help the Serbs in Bosnia. A special statement on Bosnia, which has dominated the three-day meeting. said: "We express our condemnation of all direct or indirect assistance to the Serbian aggressors and we resolve to reconsider present economic relations between our countries and those which support the Ser-

bian position." The statement, echoing a resolution by foreign ministers, said the 52 members of the Organization of the Islamic Conference considered null and void the United Nations ban on supplying arms to the mainly Muslim government of Bosnia.

The foreign ministers had added that their governments would act on this under-

crease humanitarian and economic aid to the Bosnian Muslims through a Bosnian aid fund, the statement said. Each member would contribute between \$300,000 and \$5 million to the fund, it said.

An Islamic delegation would meet permanent members of the United Nations Security Council to explain and defend their policy on Bosnia, it added.

President Alija Izetbegovic of Bosnia, attending the meeting as a guest, said: "I am satisfied with the resolutions of the summit but the problem that remains is implementation.

Unifying Islamic nations and countering religious extremism were also central themes of the three-day session, which sought to give the world's more than 1 billion Muslims more clout in the international arena.

Inter-Arab disputes that dogged a pre-See BOSNIA, Page 4



the decibels Thursday at the annual shouting contest in Shinjuku district.

EU Puts Baltics On the Road To Membership

By Tom Buerkle

BRUSSELS - The European Union opened negotiations Thursday to put the Baltic republics on the path toward membership, a step that essentially completes the future geopolitical boundary of Western Europe but raises delicate security questions about the Union's eastern ex-

EU officials said they expected to complete so-called Europe Agreements with Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania within a few months. That reflects the rapid progress those countries have made in abandoning central planning for the free market, as well as the ambition of Germany to extend the Union's stability right up to the fron-tier of the former Soviet Union, minus the Baltic states.

"European countries which want to join the European Union should be allowed to do so," said Sir Leon Brittan, the trade commissioner who led the Union side in the talks. "The European Union is not a club that belongs to those who happen to

Sir Leon said it was premature to draw any new East-West boundaries, but he left no doubt that Russia, Ukraine and other republics of the Commonwealth of Independent States do not meet his definition of a European state. The geography les-

See EU, Page 4

As Clinton Tries to Reinvent Himself, the Question Is: Who Is He?

By Ann Devroy

Washington Past Service
WASHINGTON — For perhaps the fourth or fifth but probably the most important time, President Bill Clinton is trying to start his presidency over.

Mr. Clinton's Oval Office address was described by White House aides as an effort at putting the president back on track and laying the groundwork for the second half of his term; he sought to appeal to the nation as a champion of the "forgotten middle class."

There is little optimism outside the

White House, even among sour and demoralized Democrats themselves, that there can be a successful second act in this

Some say Mr. Clinton's best hope is that Republicans blunder so badly that Americans take another, kinder look at him.

No one thinks it will be easy. David Gergen, the Clinton senior adviser who leave the administration next week, said that Americans "have lost sight of who he is."

"People say move to the left," Mr. Gergen said. "Other people say move to the

right, but what people have lost sight of is Bill Chinton's center. What they want to hear is what his core convictions are."

The political scientist Charles O. Jones, a student of the presidency and Congress. said Mr. Clinton never assumed the stature of the presidency. "If he had enhanced and protected and nurtured this larger presidential picture," then the questions of who he is and what he stands for and whether he can survive would not dominate the Clinton presidency today.

"Can he come back?" Mr. Jones asked

rhetorically, then shook his head. "He has been so marginalized," not only by the Republicans but even now by his fellow Democrats. Mr. Jones pointed to the decision by the House Democratic leader, Richard A. Gephardt, on Tuesday to announce his version of a middle-class tax cut before Mr. Clinton's speech and the way Mr. Gephardt put distance between House Democrats and the White House.

"Gephardt ought to be the most ardent supporter of the president," Mr. Jones said. "Instead, he upstages him. "If I did not know better, I'd think it was the first

step toward a challenge of the president in

Other Democrats also point to what one called "the deafening silence" coming from other Democrats. An embittered supporter of Mr. Clinton said this week: Where in hell is our amen-chorus? Even George Bush had Republicans standing up for him when the Democrats attacked.

He noted that when Senator Jesse Helms, Republican of North Carolina, said the president needed protection if he visited North Carolina, remarks he later

See CLINTON, Page 4

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BONN BUDGETING — Chancellor Helmut Kohl, right, showing a chart as he conferred Thursday with Foreign Minister

The case of Mr. Deckert, a

Klaus Kinkel, center, and Finance Minister Theo Waigel during the German Parliament's deliberations over a budget.

Top German Court Orders Extremist To Be Resentenced

BONN --- Germany's highest criminal and civil court Thursday ordered a new sentencing for an extreme-right nationalist leader given a suspended oneyear term last summer by a lower court for publicly inciting anti-Semitism.

The Federal Court of Justice in Karlsruhe called for a new sentencing of Gunter A. Deckert, 51, the national chairman of the 5,000-member National Democratic Party, by a different district court than the one that convicted him but spared him a jail term in August.

"The uniqueness of the mass murder of Jews committed by the German state in the Second World War rules out a mitigating view of criminal acts arising from it," the court ruled.

bedeviled German justice since 1992, when a district court in Mannheim found him guilty of the crime of denying that the Holocaust had taken place. He had organized and translated a public lecture by an American apologist for Nazi war crimes, Fred A. Leuchter Jr.

Early this year, the Federal Court of Justice ordered Mr. Deckert retried on the grounds that he could be convicted only if he himself had publicly expressed the offending views as his own. In June, the three-judge

Mannheim court that had convicted Mr. Deckert retried him, and in August again found him guilty of violating German law by embeliishing on Mr. Leuchter's speech, telling the audience that the Holocaust was a myth perpetrated by a "parasitical" people who were using a historical lie to blackmail Germany into paying reparations.

"He is a strong-willed, responsible personality with clear rinciples who defends his political views with great dedication and a considerable expenditure of time and energy," the judges said, provoking a storm of protest by suspending his sentence. Now that he knew denying the Holocaust was illegal, they said, he certainly would not do it again.

Since then, Mr. Deckert has loudly demanded that Michel Friedman, a member of the Central Council of Jews in Germany, leave the country, and was arrested last month for trying to conduct a meeting at the former concentration camp in Buchenwald.

Prosecutors appealed the mild sentence he received last summer, and Thursday the Federal Court of Justice ordered Mr. Deckert resentenced

by a district court in Karlsruhe. "Things may be set right this time, and I think the message that will be conveyed to those doing this sort of thing will be a clear one — that they can't get away with it," said Kenneth Jacobson, Assistant National Director of the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith in New York City. — CRAIG R. WHITNEY

■ Neo-Nazi Gets 18 Months

A Munich court jailed a prominent neo-Nazi leader for 18 months on Thursday for distributing racist and anti-Semitic propaganda, Reuters report-

The court found Bela Ewald Althans, who last year aroused widespread anger for remarks he made in the controversial film "Profession: Neo-Nazi," guilty of distributing videos that denied the Nazi extermination of Jews.

Swedes Rule Out Raising Ferry and Bodies From Sea

STOCKHOLM (AP) -- Sweden decided Thursday to leave 818 bodies inside the sunken ferry Estonia and preserve the wreck as a graveyard on the bottom of the Baltic Sea. "It will be left in the sea,"

said Prime Minister Ingvar Carlsson in announcing the decision to Parliament.

The delicate, long-awaited decision ended nearly three months of uncertainty for supcostly emotionally as well as financially.

Although technically feasible at an estimated cost of 500 million kronor (\$66 million), the salvage in the end was scrapped mainly because officials felt they would never be able to identify or retrieve all the bod-

ies with certainty.

More than 900 people died on Sept. 28 after a Baitic Sea storm tore off the Estonia's huge front cargo door,

Only 137 people survived and just 94 bodies were recovered. Because passenger lists were unreliable, authorities say they may never know exactly how many died in the wreck.

Military Bases:

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WORLD BRIEFS

Gunmen Kill 10 in Karachi Attacks

KARACHI, Pakistan (Reuters) — Gunmen killed 10 people and also fired shots in front of Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto's

home in Karachi on Thursday, police and witnesses said.

At least 23 people were wounded. The deaths raised the toll from ethnic and sectarian violence in Pakistan's commercial capital to 106 in the last 15 days. A district chief of the ethnic Muhajir National Movement was killed by gunmen who broke into his home and shot him in front of his relatives, witnesses said. Police said they killed two gunmen in a shoot-out in Karachi. Witnesses said several gunshots were heard in front of Miss Bhutto's private home in southern Karachi.

Cells Appear to Slow Spread of AIDS

LONDOÑ (Reuters) — Immune cells have been discovered that attack the HIV virus and might help in the search for a cure for AIDS, U.S. scientists said in a report to be published Friday. The immune cells, called CDT-T cells, were found to reduce levels of the virus in the blood of some patients, causing the flulike illness experienced in the first stages of AIDS to recede after two to six weeks, research at the University of California in San

rancisco showed. Professor Jay Levy and his colleagues said an article in the medical journal Lancet that the cells appeared to briefly stop the spread of the disease. The discovery will assist in understanding AIDS, the researchers concluded. Three out of seven patients experienced a decrease in the level of HIV virus as the activity of the cells increased. This suggested the cells were "responsible for the control of HIV replication," the researchers said.

U.S. Presses Turkey on Rights Cases

WASHINGTON (NYT) — The Clinton administration has increased pressure on Turkey to stop human rights abuses after a state security court convicted eight Kurdish members of Parliament last week of supporting an illegal Kurdish separatist group.

The State Department has suggested that the Kurdish lawmak

ers were convicted for merely speaking out on behalf of their people. Some officials voiced concern that two speeches cited were made by parliamentarians to the Carnegie Endowment for Peace and the Helsinki Commission of the U.S. Congress.

The administration is trying to press Turkey without straining relations to the breaking point. Turkey has long been one of America's closest allies in the Middle East.

French Advance Anti-Corruption Bill

PARIS (Reuters) — The French National Assembly approved an anti-corruption bill Thursday that would ban corporate financing of political parties and require civil servants involved in public tenders to disclose their financial assets.

The bill, to be debated in the Senate next week, follows numerous scandals involving business executives and politicians in most major political parties. Three ministers in Prime Minister Edouard Balladur's center-right cabinet have resigned in the last five months because of corruption inquiries.

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The bill would ban elected officials convicted of corruption or influence-peddling from running for public office for five years. It would also prohibit any company from financing an election campaign through eash or services, and forbid individuals to donate more than 30,000 francs (\$5,500) for an election campaign.

Seedling of Prehistoric Pine Unveiled

SYDNEY (AP) -Only a day after announcing the discovery of a real-life Jurassic Park, where pine trees thought to have been extinct for 150 million years still thrive, scientists unveiled the

sequel Thursday in the form of a seedling.
For two weeks, horticulturists at the Mount Annan Botanic Garden had mounted a secret effort to propagate seeds from the prehistoric pines, discovered in August and called Wollemi Pines, after the national park where they were found.

Forty seeds recovered from the grove have been incubating in plant nutrient solution and one has sprouted, said Cathy Offe 1. the research officer at the botanic garden. The institution is also experimenting with branches and foliage to see if the pines reproduce by sending out runners or shoots. "Because it is a new genus, we have no prior knowledge of how to propagate the plant," she said.

Liberian Rebels Kill 48 Civilians

MONROVIA, Liberia (AP) - Rebels hacked and burned 48 civilians to death Thursday and artillery fire shook Liberia's capital as the country's civil war returned to Monrovia for the first time in almost two years. I he attack marked the first such violence in Monrovia since the

rebel leader Charles Taylor tried to seize the capital during an assault from October 1992 through January 1993. It was not clear if Thursday's attack was by Taylor followers. Peacekeepers came under attack Monday night in the northeast

of the capital, and fighting flared again Tuesday and Wednesday. The latest fighting was concentrated in rubber plantations about 35 miles outside the city center.

TRAVEL UPDATE

Egypt to Divert Road From Pyramids

CAIRO (AFP) - Egyptian authorities have decided to divert a much-disputed highway away from the pyramids at Giza, Reconstruction Minister Muhammad Ibrahim Soliman said Thursday. The issue was discussed late Wednesday by a committee of experts from the Department of Antiquities and the ministries of

reconstruction, culture, defense and tourism. The committee is to decide on the new route, which will run two to four kilometers south of the road that has already been built so that it crosses an area free of archaeological sites," said

About 300 Air France employees blocked runways and aircraft parking areas at Orly airport, south of Paris, on Thursday, c) disrupting air traffic for more than two hours. The maintenance workers were protesting an increase in their workweek from 38 to 39 hours, which they say was imposed by Air France's president, Christian Blanc.

newspaper Tuoi Tre reported.

The Australian seaside town of Byron Bay will bar vehicles

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New Bonn Minister Makes Abortion Issue Knottier

By Craig R. Whitney
New York Times Service

BONN -- With German political parties still struggling four years after unification to reach consensus on a new abortion law to replace one that the courts rejected as unconstitutional, Chancellor Helmut Kohl has given the debate a new twist by naming an opponent of abortion as his cabinet minister in charge of family policy.

East Germany permitted free access to abortion in the early stages of pregnancy. After unification, the government loosened some of the restrictions West Germany had on abortion, until the country's highest court stepped in. Since then, abortion has been technically illegal, though not punished.

The cabinet member is Claudia Nolte, an East German Roman Catholic who heads the Ministry for the Family, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth. At 28, she is the youngest minister in 50 years.

When named to the job last month, she told Parliament that she would seek a consensus. But she also now the government has put its cards on the table,"

said a new law should encourage prospective mothers to say "yes to the child."

The chancellor, who is also Roman Catholic, has avoided taking a stand. He said he had chosen Mrs. Nolte because he was impressed by her determination to stand up for principle.

Early this week, a German television program revealed that Mrs. Nolte, while still a backbencher, had endorsed a nationalistic Christian group that pub-lished a calendar for young people showing a 1937 map of Germany. The calendar entry claimed that areas annexed by Poland and Russia still belonged to

Mrs. Nolte said this week that she had been unaware of the calendar's contents and should have examined it

more closely before sending the endorsement. Her appointment has provoked criticism. Barbara Ritter, a member of a nationwide abortion-rights movement, said: "Her position on abortion is extreme - she wants to make it punishable, period. At least

had headed a government.

The leftist tone of the new

Mrs. Nolte led the Christian Democratic Party list in Thuringia state in the first all-German elections in December 1990. In the Parliament she acquired a reputation for being independent minded, particularly on abortion.

From 1972, East German women had had the right to abortion until the 12th week of pregnancy. West Germany also tried to lift the legal prohibition on abortion in the mid-1970s, but the courts overturned

After reunification in 1990, Parliament approved a law that gave women the right to abortion after mandatory counseling about the dangers and drawbacks.

That law was overturned in May 1993 as a violation of the constitutional requirement to protect human life. But the court also ruled that women who underwent abortions in the first three months of pregnancy, and their doctors, should not be prosecuted. In practice, it meant that it was easier for women who could afford it to go to another country or to a private clinic.

Bruton to Head Irish Coalition Centrist and Leftist Parties Join to End Monthlong Crisis The election marked the first as Mr. Reynolds was accused of By James F. Clarity time since 1987 that Fine Gael

New York Times Service DUBLIN — A combination

of centrist and leftist parties ended a month of political confusion Thursday, electing John Bruton as Ireland's prime min-Mr. Bruton, a wealthy 47-

year-old farm owner who leads the centrist Fine Gael party, was elected with the support of the Labor and Democratic Left parties, giving Ireland a government for the first time since mid-November, when Albert minister and put his Fianna Fail party, the country's largest,

He resigned after Labor, headed by Dick Spring, broke up a coalition with Fianna Fail in a dispute over the mishandling of an extradition case involving a Roman Catholic priest who was convicted of child molestation in Northern

The dispute became a nationingly Roman Catholic country position.

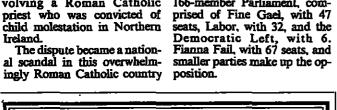
defending an attorney general who had failed to act on the priest's extradition, leaving him at large in Ireland for seven months last year.

charges that he was less enthusicease-fire, which they did, and he later welcomed them to there was little in the 38-page Dublin to discuss peace.

Gerry Adams, the president of Sinn Fein, said he wanted to meet with Mr. Bruton, who said

he was willing. itself a "rainbow coalition." will

have a four-seat majority in the 166-member Parliament, com-





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Herald Cribune-

NEW YORK

Mr. Bruton sought to counter small Progressive Democrat party, Mary Harney, as "the red astic about the peace initiative rainbow of ruin." Other politiin Northern Ireland than Mr. cians said the government was

government was immediately attacked by the leader of the Reynolds. The former prime the fox in the henhouse, planminister played a major role in ning to spend an expected rise persuading Sinn Fein, the polit- in revenues rather than use it to ical wing of the Irish Republi- lower taxes, which are among can Army, to work for an IRA the highest in Europe. But analysts pointed out that

program of the new government indicating that it will bend toward the socialism long-since ignored by both Labor and the Democratic Left. The leader of the Democratic

The new government, calling Left, Proinsias De Rossa, who

was once interned by the Irish government as an IRA supporter and whose party had ties with the old Soviet Communist Party, is to serve in the cabinet as minister for social welfare. He described Mr. Bruton on Thursday as "a fair and honest man." Mr. Bruton said "the origins

and policies of our parties are very different," adding that "differences can provide great strength." Two weeks ago, Mr. Bruton

seemed on the verge of losing his leadership of Fine Gael, as polls showed only 10 percent of the voters wanted him as prime It was the party that, under Prime Minister Garret FitzGer-

ald in 1985, negotiated with Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher of Britain the agree-ment that gave the Republic of Ireland a consultative role in Northern Ireland affairs for the first time since Ireland won independence in 1922,

Commuter Flight In Foul Weather? Think About Risks

New York Times Service

NEW YORK - Although traveling by propeller plane remains safer than driving, aviation experts say that taking such planes in foul weather, particularly at night, can be

The reasons, they say, include the short hops endemic to commuter flying, the design of the planes, the heavy work loads facing pilots and their generally lower standards of "If I were going somewhere and had to fly on a commuter, I

would take a real strong look at the weather," said William D. ence professor for Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University. "The operations tend to be less safe," said Mr. Waldock, who is also director of the university's aviation safety center. The International Airline Passengers Association also advises travelers not to fly on aircraft with fewer than 31 seats at

night or in bad weather. It said that such aircraft, which are allowed to conform to lower standards than larger aircraft, had 30 fatal accidents in the last 15 years. And Richard Jones, a former deputy administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration, told CNN: "If the weather

were very bad — if there were icy conditions, sleet and that sort of thing — I think I might look for another way to get to Although no single agency collects safety statistics on all propeller planes, there is general agreement that they have had an accident rate two to three times higher than jets flown

by major U.S. airlines. ■ 'Flame-Out' Before North Carolina Crash

American Eagle Flight 3379 apparently had an engine malfunction and may have stalled while approaching Raleigh-Durham International Airport before it crashed Tuesday, killing 15 people and injuring 5 others, according to the National Transportation Safety Board, The Washington Post

reported from Raleigh, North Carolina.

The board chairman, Jim Hall, said a preliminary reading of the cockpit voice recorder showed that pilots of the twin-turboprop Jetstream Super 31 had talked of a "flame-out" and discussed aborting their landing.

The pilots also "discussed which engine was not operating properly," Mr. Hall said.

Flame-outs are rare. When they do occur, crews are supposed to be able to adjust for the lack of power with the other engine. That will lead the safety board to question whether something else went wrong at the same time.

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Mr. Soliman. A Reconstruction Ministry spokesman said the new porters and opponents of the plan would be drawn up within two weeks. He did not say how salvage, which would have been much the new work would cost.

> Passengers arriving in Sydney on Saturday on international and domestic flights were advised to expect delays because thousands of residents plan to blockade the airport to protest the noise of jetliners diverted over their neighborhoods by the opening of a

> Vietnamese tourism authorities have requested the creation of a special police force to protect foreign visitors at cultural and historical sites, airports and border crossings, the Vietnamese

> carrying nonresidents and visitors without reservations, and triple the number of police on duty on Dec. 31, in an attempt to prevent a repetition of a New Year's Eve riot last year.

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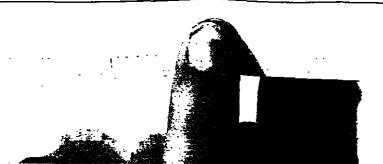
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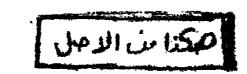
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THE AMERICAS /

Public Is Unsure of Republican Policy

By Maureen Dowd

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Contrary

abare said.

New York Times Service NEW YORK - Americans say they now trust the Republicans in the new Con-gress more than President Bill Clinton to make good decisions on major social issues. But most remain uninformed about the Republicans' "Contract With America," and they are leery of Newt Gingrich's proposals on orphanages and a constitutional amendment on school prayer, according to the latest New York Ti-

While there is broad public support for substantial change and, in general, for limiting the welfare system, balancing the federal budget and allowing organized prayer in schools, that support splinters on the details of how to achieve these goals.

For instance, although nearly two-thirds of the public favor permitting organized prayer in public schools, about the same number said they would not want to change the Constitution to allow it.

"Those guys 200 years ago knew what they were doing," said Stanley Jaremko, a Republican from New York City who works as a fire marshal. "That's a bad thing to start off doing, because once you change one thing, then maybe you go into another thing and then, before you know it, the whole Constitution's different."

Mr. Gingrich, the next speaker of the House, and other Republicans have portrayed the midterm elections as a referen-dum on their policies and leadership, as they prepare to try to end Washington's domination over social programs by replacing many of them with grants to state

It is not surprising that most people like the basic thrust of the Contract on social issues, even though they may not have

Away From Politics

In perhaps the worst sexual harassment episode in the

military since the Tailhook incident, the U.S. Navy says it will

court-martial four male instructors and otherwise punish six

others for pressuring female students for sex. The case in-

volves 16 young enlisted women who were learning to operate

the navy's computer and telephone networks at the Naval

Training Center in San Diego. Investigators found that the 10

male instructors, who had served 6 to 12 years in the navy.

made unwanted sexual comments to the women and in some

cases grabbed them at various times from March 1993 to this

• Paul J. Hill, 40, the former minister and abortion foe on

death row in Florida for gunning down a doctor and his

escort, remains unrepentant and suggested he might be start-

ing a trend. "There's no question that what I did is a relatively

new concept," Mr. Hill said in a television interview. "Some-

day, it will be commonplace and generally accepted as nor-

mal." It was his first interview since he was condemned to die

in Florida's electric chair for murdering Dr. John B. Britton

• Declaring that California's Proposition 187 raises serious

constitutional questions, a federal district court judge has

barred most key portions of the measure from taking effect

until a decision is reached in a trial to determine the constitu-

tionality of the sweeping illegal immigration ballot initiative. Indge Mariana R. Pfaelzer enjoined sections of the initiative

banning illegal immigrants from public elementary and sec-ondary school education, social welfare and nonemergency

• A regional planning council has taken a decisive step toward rebuilding the Pacific Northwest's declining salmon stocks by

approving a plan that will provide more water from the Snake and Columbia Rivers for fish and less for electricity, agricul-

• Melinda Ann Lee was a victim in death as in life. The 20-

year-old honors student died after a traffic accident involving

an allegedly drunken driver. Then her body was stolen from

the fresh grave. Authorities said they are investigating explanations ranging from the occult to an obsessed admirer. (AP)

September when an investigation was ordered.

heard of the document itself. Mr. Gingrich and his allies molded the Contract after extensive Republican polling to test the public's attitudes.

But the new poll suggests that the meaning of the election is far less conclusive than Mr. Gingrich suggests, Many of those polled were still fuzzy on such fundamental matters as the Georgia congressman's

identity.
"Who the hell is that?" asked Don Sherrod, 28, of Florence, Alabama, an automobile painter who was one of several respondents who agreed to follow-up interviews

'Who the hell is that?' said Don Sherrod, 28, of Florence, Alabama, when asked about Newt Gingrich.

after taking part in the poil, "Maybe I've seen him on TV, speaking and stuff. But when I come home from work, I'm tired, and I want to sit down in what little time I have and play the guitar a bit."

Although Mr. Gingrich has been waving around his copy of the Contract with America, which was printed in TV Guide, 72 percent of those polled said they had not read or heard anything about it. And 65 percent said they still did not know enough about Washington's most celebrated politician to have an opinion of him.

Those familiar with the Georgian have a negative impression of him, by 2 to 1. Only percent held a favorable opinion of him, but those 11 percent are expecting big

"I like his fire," said Susan Wuori, 44, a teacher from Guyton, Georgia, "He's going to yell and scream and make a differ-

The new poll, conducted Dec. 6 through included telephone interviews with 1,147 adults nationwide and has a margin of sampling error of plus or minus 3 per-

Most of those polled had doubts about Mr. Gingrich's proposal that welfare benefits should be denied to young mothers and the money used to promote adoptions or Boys Town-like orphanages for their chil-dren. The public instead seemed to side more with Mr. Clinton, who said, "Governments don't raise children - parents

A total of 72 percent said the children of young mothers with no income were still better off living with their mothers on welfare than being placed in foster care or a government-run orphanage; only 20 percent said the children would be better off if

institutionalized.

While those polled seemed reluctant to amend the Constitution, a majority said they would welcome the recitation of prayers from many religions in the public schools. Most wanted parents or students to choose the prayers to be said, rather than a school board, principals or teachers. People say they trust Republicans in Congress more than the president to make good decisions on welfare, by 60 to 28 percent; on balancing the budget, 60 to 28 percent, and on school prayer, 49 to 33

Mr. Clinton's overall job performance rating has dipped since November's Republican sweep, with only 38 percent expressing approval. In early November, 43

ously thought that there were only a handful of such experi-

ments, but the panel has found

hundreds, ranging from the de-

liberate release of radiation into

the air to the injection of people

The most recent documents

unearthed at the Oak Ridge Na-

tional Laboratory in Tennessee

show that officials of the mili-

tary and the Atomic Energy

Commission at first began to

declassify reports of experi-

ments on humans, in accor-

that scientific reports should

But at the same time, C.I

Marshall, a declassification of-

wrote in February 1947 that a

scientific paper outlining ex-periments in which two people

were injected with plutonium

"This document appears to

be most dangerous since it de-

scribes experiments performed on human subjects, including

the actual injection of the met-

al, plutonium, into the body,

should not be declassified.

ficer with the commission.

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with radioactive plutonium.

Pervasive Secrecy

Found in U.S. Files

On Radiation Trials

By Philip J. Hilts

New York Times Service

and nuclear energy officials were motivated by fear of law-

suits and bad publicity in their

decision to keep secret many

experiments using radiation on humans, federal investigators

The President's Advisory

Committee on Human Radia-

tion Experiments, charged with

unearthing the history of all

government-sponsored experi-

used on humans, has found new

documents showing that as ear-

ly as 1947 public relations and legal considerations were prin-

cipal motivations in covering

panel has logged hundreds of

thousands of papers on experi-

mentation with humans, begin-

The documents show that the

experiments were part of a plan

that was debated and approved at high levels. It was also previ-

In the last six months, the

up radiation experiments.

ning in 1945.

WASHINGTON - Military



JOINT EFFORTS — Tipper Gore, left, and Health and Human Services Secretary Donna Shalala visiting a Moscow maternity clinic Thursday. Vice President Al Gore, Energy Secretary Hazel O'Leary, Defense Secretary William Perry and other U.S. officials are in Moscow for three days of talks on U.S.-Russian cooperation.

POLITICAL NOTES

A Standoff on Safety Net

WASHINGTON - After 10 months of work, a federal advisory commission said that it could not agree on any specific proposals to slow the growth of Social Security retirement benefits, Medicare health benefits for the elderly and disabled or other government benefit pro-

The commission's failure, at its final meeting this week, bodes ill for efforts by Congress and President Bill Clinton to deal with the same problems next year. Since Republicans took control of Congress in the November elections, both parties have been proposing tax cuts for the middle class and have vowed not to make any cuts in Social Security bene-

who then served as its chairman.

And addressing tax reduction, Mr. Kerrey said in an interview, "Tax cuts are inconsistent with the spirit of the commission's work, especially if they make the long-term problem worse."

Buffeted by political crosswinds, the panel, many of whose members serve in Congress, voted by 24 to 6 to send a letter to the president saying, "This commission could not reach agreement on the details of a plan to achieve our objec-

jected cost of government benefit pro-

grams and the money available to pay for them over the next 35 years.

"I feel some disappointment that we were unable to make specific, detailed. item-by-item recommendations," said Senator Bob Kerrey, Democrat of Nebraska, who persuaded Mr. Clinton to create the 32-member commission and

The objective, on which commission members generally did agree, was to climinate disparities between the pro-

The panel, the Bipartisan Commission on Entitlement and Tax Reform, said lawmakers and policy analysts should take a much longer view of spending and tax proposals, assessing the likely effects over 30 years, rather than the five-year period normally used in discussions of the budget. (NTT)

Taking Aim at Regulators

WASHINGTON - Republican House members have teamed up with a newly formed business coalition and declared war on government regulators. assailing many federal rules and regulations as "overly oppressive, unreasonable and even irrational."

Accusing unnamed bureaucrats of "abusive and Gestapo-like" behavior toward American businesses, the incoming House whip, Thomas D. DeLay, Republican of Texas, described the alliance between Republicans and business as "the biggest effort ever to seek regulatory relief for small business, industry and indeed average Americans." It is known as "Project Relief."

Republican leaders already have called on the Clinton administration to issue no new regulations during the first 100 days of the 1995 legislative session. which begins Jan. 4. There are 5,000 ations awaiting issi to Representative John L. Mica, Republican of Florida.

What Staff on the Hill Want

WASHINGTON - A nonpartisan survey suggests that many changes in

Court Hears of Simpson Outburst in Jail

proposed by the incoming House speaker. Newt Gingrich, will respond to longstanding complaints by staff members burning out from long hours at low pay.

The survey of 1,400 Senate 2 id House staff recommended that Congress trim the number of committees and subcommittees, cut back on late-night and weekend sessions and comply with overtime requirements of the Fair Labor Standards Act.

Sixty-seven percent of staff members on Capitol Hill said they "never have enough time to get anything done," while 42 percent listed "job burnout" as "a major problem in my office."

These shortcomings were significantly more pronounced in the Senate, where 46 percent of staff were dissatisfied with their pay, compared with 34 percent in the House. The survey said 37 percent of Senate committee staff members objected to the "unpredictability" of their schedules, while the House group registered 31 percent dissatisfaction. (WP)

Quote/Unquote

Harry McPherson, a Washington lawyer who served as President Lyndon B. Johnson's White House counsel, on a pitfall confronting Bill Clinton, which is the loss of his political base: "The fact is that there's really no one out there carry ing the flag for liberalism any more. The shock troops of the poverty program are gone - unions smaller and less effective, same for the big civil-rights groups. The old coalition isn't big enough to win anymore, so whatever base he risks alienating, he has no choice but to try to running the House of Representatives add to it by moving right." (NYT)

Catherine Filene Shouse, **Arts Philanthropist, Dies**

New York Times Service

and James H. Barrett.

health care services.

ture and transportation.

Catherine Filene Shouse, 98, the philanthropist and arts patron who was the founder and major benefactor of the Wolf Trap Farm Park for the Performing Arts in Virginia, died Wednesday of heart failure at her home in Naples, Florida. She also had homes in Wash-"ington, Easton, Maryland, and Vienna, Virginia, where Wolf Trap is situated.

Mrs. Shouse, the heiress to a retailing fortune, was a lifelong champion of the performing arts whose accomplishments and philanthropic ventures earned recognition from the highest quarters.

Catherine Filene was born in Boston in 1896. Her grandfather, William Filene, was the founder of Filene's departmentstore chain, and her father, Lincoln Filene, founded Federated Department Stores.

Over seven decades, Mrs. Shouse held a variety of public and private posts.

Mrs. Shouse's most lasting legacy, however, is Wolf Trap. In 1966, at the age of 70, she donated 100 acres of the farm in Virginia to the U.S. government to create a national park for the performing arts. There, under the auspices of the Department dation to manage the park, ar- his home in San Francisco.

range programming and raise money for an arts center.

The park opened in 1971 and since then has been home to performances by some of the world's great musicians, dancers, singers and actors.

Glenn M. Anderson, 81, a California politician who rose to the office of lieutenant governor and then served for a quarter-century in Congress, died uesday of complications from Alzheimer's disease at a Los Angeles hospital. He lived in Hawthorne, California.

Norman Beaton, 60, an actor in the British television series "Desmond's," became ill on a flight from London to his native Guyana and died Thursday shortly after arriving there.

Teresa McGovern, 45, daughter of George McGovern the former senator and 1972 Democratic presidential candidate, was found dead of hypothermia Tuesday near her home in Madison, Wisconsin. Miss McGovern, who for years struggled with alcoholism, had been missing for a day when her body was found in the snow behind an industrial building in Madison.

Terrence D. Clancy, 60. a wine industry executive and vice chairman of the Wine Alliof the Interior, Mrs. Shouse es- ance in Healdsburg, California, tablished the Wolf Trap Foun-died Tuesday of heart disease at



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in July.

Ms. Simmons's scholarly work focuses on Caribbean and African literature. One of 12 children, she grew up in Houston and attended Dillard University in New Orleans. She received a master's and a doctorate in Romance languages from

Black to Head Smith College

The Associated Press NORTHAMPTON.

Massachusetts — Ruth Simmons, a daughter of sharecroppers, was named the next president of Smith College on Thursday, the first black to lead one of the clite "Seven Sister" schools.

The 49-year-old black-studies scholar and vice provost at Princeton University will succeed Mary Maples Dunn, who retires

he wrote. He noted that there was no statement in the paper about

whether the patients had given their consent, and concluded that the experimenters and agencies involved "have been laid open to a devastating lawsuit which would, through its attendant publicity, have farreaching results."

It has long been suspected that legal and public relations concerns helped drive the ethical debate over the experiments on humans, but the advisory committee in recent weeks has found numerous substantiating memorandums.

The investigators said that documents so far found that an official as highly placed as Dr. Shields Warren, head of the medical division in Washington, had classified human experiments based on public relations or legal implications.

The investigators said the classification on that basis may

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cole Brown Simpson, and her friend Ronald L. Goldman.

Los Angeles Times Service
LOS ANGELES — A crying versation should remain confidential was not resolved. and distraught O.J. Simpson blurted out two sentences to his friend and minister, Rosey Grier, during an emotional jailhouse visit on Nov. 13, according to testimony by a sheriff's deputy who says he overheard a

snippet of their conversation. Although Deputy Jeff Stuart did not repeat what he said he overheard, a Los Angeles County deputy district attorney. William Hodgman, questioned him at length Wednesday during a cryptic hearing in which prose-cutors and defense argued about a statement that has never been made public or even revealed to the two sides.

By Jim Newton

and Andrea Ford

Mr. Hodgman sought to show that Mr. Simpson was so loud that he waived the normal privacy protection in discussions between an inmate and a clergyman. He is on trial on have been illegal, but they have murder charges in the June 12 not yet found the relevant laws. slayings of his former wife, NiThe issue of whether the con-

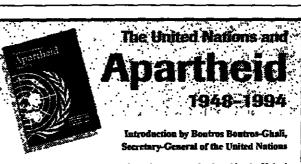
In another development, sources close to the case said prosecutors drilled into Mrs. Simpson's safety deposit box last month and secured four photos depicting her with cuts and bruises. Though the photos purport to show injuries inflict-

ed by Mr. Simpson, members of the defense downplayed their significance, saying they were taken after a 1989 incident for which Mr. Simpson pleaded guilty to spousal battery.

Deputy Stuart testified that of two lead defense attorneys, he had been doing paperwork in cross-examined Deputy Stuart a control booth about 10 feet (3 meters) from Mr. Simpson when he heard a loud bang the sound of Mr. Simpson slam-

ming down a phone in the visitors area. "Mr. Simpson appeared to be crying," Deputy Stuart said, "He appeared to be very upset." Asked to describe Mr. Simp-

son's tone of voice during the brief exchange with Mr. Grier, a fellow former football star, Deputy Stuart replied, "He was yelling," adding, "It was very loud, in a raised voice." Johnnie L. Cochran Jr., one



This landmark publication chronicles the central role played by the United Nations in supporting the struggle against apartheid in South Africa, For the first time, the texts of more than 200 key documents and historic texts have been gathered in a single volume,

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not to eavesdrop on conversations between inmates and their

cross-examined Deputy Stuart

for nearly an hour, eliciting his

acknowledgment that the sher-

iff's department trains its staff

The nightmere of enercin and bloodshed in the African nation of Reanda defies description. The hearts of everyone at the African Wildlife Foundation go out to the people of Rwanda.

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A General at 36, a Rebel at 50

Chechen Leader Returns to Ethnic Roots

By Steven Erlanger New York Times Service

MOSCOW - Dzhokar M. Dudayev, the flamboyant leader of the breakaway Chechen region, was the first Chechen in the history of the Soviet Union to become a general, commanding a strategic bomber wing at the age of

It was a remarkable rise for a boy whose family was deported in 1944, the year of his birth, to Kazakhstan, along with almost the entire population of the Chechen-Ingush Autonomous District. Stalin thought they might collaborate with the Nazis to win independence, and given the long history of enmity between the Chechens and the Russians who colonized them, he might have been right.

Historians estimate that of the 800,000 people stuffed into railway cars, 240,000 died en route.

But Mr. Dudayev seemed the perfect Soviet man, spending his first 13 years in northern Kazakhstan, graduating from elite Soviet military schools and marrying a Russian, Alev-tina, with whom he has had three daughters and a son.

He graduated from the Tambov Higher Air Force Engineering School and, in 1974, the Yuri Gagarin Air Force Academy. He rose to major general, commanding a division of Soviet strategic bombers based near Tartu, Estonia, from 1987 to 1990.

Mr. Dudayev learned Estonian and showed remarkable tolerance of Estonian nationalism. He also refused to carry out orders of the Soviet government to shut down Estonian television and the Parliament.

After the division was withdrawn from Estonia in 1990, he retired, returning to Grozny, the Chechen capital, where he quickly became leader of the executive committee of the opposition National Congress of the Chechen People, a nationalist organization.

"The Chechen people bend their heads only when they are working," he said then.

Within two weeks of the abortive coupagainst Mikhail S. Gorbachev in August 1991, Mr. Dudayev deposed the leadership of the Chechen-Ingush Autonomous Republic and seized power. He became president of the Chechen Republic on Oct. 27, and was elect-

ed to that post in November. He declared the republic independent from Russia and then faced down troops sent to Grozny by President Boris N. Yeltsin. The Russian legislature demanded their return, and Mr. Yeltsin complied.

Mr. Dudayev has in his presidential palace a huge painting of Sheikh Mansur, an 18thcentury Chechen warrior who led an uprising against the Russians. Russians who know him well, like Leonid V. Smirnyagin, a Yeltsin adviser, say Mr. Dudayev imagines himself a present-day Shamil, who led the revolt against the Russians that was finally put down in 1864.

Mr. Dudayev has shown himself to be ruthless in putting down unrest in Chechnya and surviving a number of assassination attempts.

With loyalty from the militia and army, he has also managed to survive a dedicated Russian effort to subvert and overthrow him. The failure of his opponents to defeat him, even with the help of Russian volunteers and air power, is the main reason for the full-scale Russian invasion now.

Mr. Dudayev, 50, says he is a dedicated Muslim who practices karate, likes classical music and lists "flowers" as one of his hob-

But it is his military training that matters now. Sensibly, he is taking his tactics not from the Soviet military but from the old school of Chechen warfare.

We have to strike them from the rear, deal them a strong blow," he said in an interview Tuesday on Russian television. "This is the centuries-old tactic of the mountain people. Strike and withdraw, strike and withdraw, to exhaust them until they die of fear and hor-

CARTER: NATO Unhappy

Continued from Page 1 way for U.S. military interven-tion in Haiti and defused a crisis with North Korea over its

nuclear program earlier this

In Sarajevo, UN and govern-ment officials said that the plan to bring Mr. Carter into the peace process appeared to be built on marginal concessions aimed at shoring up the leader of the Bosnian Serbs.

United Nations officials reported no signs that Bosnian Serbs were beginning to carry out their offer,

Mr. Karadzic said he hoped to carry out his offer in 24 hours. But Michael Williams, a spokesman at UN headquarters in Zagreb, Croatia, said there were no indications that any of the points Mr. Karadzic proposed would be carried out. They "do not represent peace for Bosnia-Herzegovina,

In the CNN interview Wednesday, Mr. Karadzic offered to give up some territory, release detained UN personnel, allow free passage to UN convoys and reopen the Sarajevo airport. He also said that he had asked Mr. Carter to mediate in the 32-month-old Balkan con-

Mr. Karadzic later told Reuters that orders to carry out his plan had already been passed down the chain of command.

The speaker of the Bosnian Serbian assembly, Momcilo Krajisnik, said that the offer was aimed at securing "equal treatment of all three sides in Bosnia's conflict.' Diplomats noted that Mr.

Karadzic had not said what land would be ceded and had not indicated acceptance of the contact group's peace plan. A senior Belgrade analyst said that Mr. Karadzic was

"buying time once again and sowing confusion." The analyst said that the move was aimed again at driv-

ing a wedge among Western nations over the contact group's plan and appeasing President Slobodan Milosevic of Serbia, August to accept the plan. A UN helicopter sent to Sa-

rajevo for the UN commander for Bosnia, Lieutenant General Michael Rose, was hit by was not in the craft and there



A LITTLE CHRISTMAS CHEER — French soldiers meeting Thursday with pupils at a school for the meanity handicapped and war-traumatized in Sarajevo. The soldiers brought food and gifts from France, donated by their parents

Continued from Page 1

paratory foreign ministers' meeting and continued among heads of state were put to rest, at least temporarily.

Iraq, angered over a resolution entitled "Iraqi Ageression Against Kuwait," won a minor victory with the deletion of a sentence on implementation of Security Council resolutions regarding "the climination of weapons of mass destruction."

The resolution still calls for Iraq to pursue efforts to comply with UN resolutions his early departure underscored the

and reaffirmed resolutions calling on Iraq not to provoke its neighbors.

King Hussein of Jordan made a surprise

departure from the meeting on Wednesday. He failed to gain a mention in a resolution on Palestine and Jerusalem of Jordan's role in overseeing Muslim holy sites in Arab East Jerusalem.

Palestinians, backed by most Islamic nations, objected out of fear it would weaken their claim to sovereignty over that sector of the city.

BOSNIA: At Summit, Muslim States Threaten Sanctions on Serb Allies schisms that exist even among friends, "There is no problem over Jerusalem," he said at the airport. "We do not seek to compete with anyone."

The summit meeting approved a code of conduct forbidding the financing or other support of terrorist groups.

It also renewed a call for an international conference to define terrorism and "distinguish it from the struggles of people for national liberation."

The West has accused Iran, Libya and Sudan of state-sponsored terrorism.

YELTSIN: Rebels Get Extension

to news agencies.

Throughout the crisis, in fact,

Continued from Page 1

headline in the liberal weekly newspaper Literaturnaya Gazeta said.

Even some Russian soldiers were openly complaining about their assignment. The newspaper Izvestia quoted one officer at the front who angrily invited Mr. Yeltsin to take a firsthand look at war. "Let him and all his comrades-in-arms come down here and spend a couple of days in the trenches," he said. "Maybe then he'll come up with a normal way out of this mess more quickly.

Russian and Chechen forces continued to clash Thursday in areas around Grozny, with Russian troops positioned about 10 kilometers (6 miles) from the capital.

At least 15 Russian servicemen have been killed since the invasion began. In his statement, Mr. Yeltsin stressed his desire to avoid further bloodshed — and for more public support. "At this crucial hour for the Chechen people's fate." he said, "I hope that all citizens

will understand my position. Mr. Yeltsin, who is recovering from minor surgery on his statement on television, and in- president by telephone.

ITALY: stead had copies of it released Confidence Vote

he has maintained a strange si-Just before sending troops into Chechnya, he checked into the hospital for the operation. Many commentators in the Russian press are convinced that Mr. Yeltsin wanted to maintain some distance from the military action and has a poor hold on his own circle of warring political advisers.

There have been unflattering comparisons to his Soviet predecessor, Mikhail S. Gorbachev, who lost the confidence of liberals and reformers when his government attacked protesters in Georgia, Azerbaijan and Lithuania Mr. Gorbachev, for that matter, has not been particularly supportive. He described Mr. Yeltsin's tough line in Chechnya as "a big mistake, and I would say it smells of

adventurism." One of Yeltsin's closest politjoined far-right politicians in criticizing the military adventure. Mr. Gaidar said that for the first time in two years he has nose, chose not to deliver the not even been able to reach the

BRIDGE

Continued from Page 1

made him many enemies. At least part of Mr. Berlus-

ical allies, his former prime published interview to the post of prime minister for a member

Meanwhile, Mr. Bossi's rival in the League, Roberto Maroni, the minister of justice in Mr. Berlusconi's cabinet, leads a caucus of about 30 League leg-islators who rebel at the idea of Eythorsdottir were content to entering an alliance with the former Communists.

ter, Francesco D'Onofrio.

MEA CUBA

Reviewed by

ant energy.

Richard Eder

Giroux.

the decision last week of the

chief anti-corruption magistrate, Antonio Di Pietro, to step down. Mr. Di Pietro's investigations over the last three years, which have sent dozens of poli- who has been exerting severe ticians and businessmen to jail, pressure on Mr. Karadzic since unfolded behind the political cover afforded by the Northen League and its leader, Umberto

But the current crisis has come down not only to a pure ground fire, but General Rose partisan struggle for power between Mr. Berlusconi and Mr. were no reports of injuries.

Rossi, It also reflects broad op
(AP, AFP, Reuters) Bossi. It also reflects broad opposition of the business and financial elites of Milan and Turin, where Mr. Berlusconi's aggressive business style during his rise to power at Fininvest

coni's strength lies in the divisions among his opponents. Mr. Bossi laid claim Thursday in a of his Northern League, possibly behind a coalition consisting of the the former Communists, now the Democratic Left, and the former Christian Democrats, now the Popular Party.

Following a cabinet meeting Thursday to discuss details of the budget bill, several cabinet members said they felt a lessen-ing of tension. "I am among those who don't believe Bossi has decided to change major-ities," said the education minis-

By Guillermo Cabrera Infante.

Translated from the Spanish by

Kenneth Hall with the author.

503 pages. \$23. Farrar, Straus &

FOR the first two years after Fidel Castro's triumphant

entry into Havana, Cuba's ar-

tistic and literary life bubbled

vigorously. It had not really

been stagnant under Fulgencio

Batista, who took no interest in

what artists did unless they en-

gaged in political resistance;

nevertheless, the dictator's

overthrow released an exuber-

li was an energy of the left.

since that was where most writ-

ers, painters, musicians and

filmmakers placed themselves.

It was also libertarian, ungov-

emable and unrestrained. Its

the weekly literary supplement

of the newspaper Revolución,

whose director, Carlos Franqui,

embodied the violent idealism

of the revolution's first years.

EU: Baltics Take First Steps on Path to Membership Continued from Page 1

sons instilled in all Western leaders following World War II "will stand us in good stead" in building the future, he said.

Both sides played down the security implications in an effort to avoid perturbing Russia, which startled the West two

weeks ago by refusing the sign a denko, a spokesman at Russia's Partnership for Peace with
NATO and warning the alliance against extending membership to Eastern European

Lance Against European

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countries. Moscow is "positive" about the EU ambitions of the Baltic

"dime-store Republican," try-

ing to outbid the Republicans

on tax cuts and shrinking pro-

grams, and said it was unlikely

dential politics or Mr. Chinton

rules out a comeback. Most

think, however, that Republi-

cans would have to badly mis-

handle their leadership of Con-

"He is a smart guy and a

candidate on top of that.

No one familiar with presi-

may threaten rather than enhance stability in Europe. In any event, Mr. Medve-billion. states, said Vassili Medvedenko said, security arrange- $\pmb{\text{CLINTON: A Bid to Reinvent His Presidency--Again}}\\$

states respecting the rights of Russians and other minorities within their borders.

"There should be no misunderstanding about the objective and the targets involved," said Hans-Friedrich von Ploetz, the endlessly disappointed," Mr. secretary of state for European affairs in the German Foreign Ministry. But he said it would take "a certain number of years" to define the Baltic role He called Mr. Clinton a in NATO and the Western Eu-

ropean Union. Estonia's foreign minister, Juri Luik, appealed both to Moscow and to southern EU states like France and Spain, which have questioned the Union's rush to the East and

sought counterbalancing initiatives toward the Mediterra-The Union had a historic opportunity to eliminate a central cause of the Cold War and

avoid a destabilizing "gray se-curity zone" by taking the East as full members, Mr. Luik said. "Everyone - South, North, East and West - who shares common values and beliefs should have this in mind, to use this window of opportunity as soon as possible," he said.

The agreements being negotiated will extend a free-trade arrangement signed by the Union and the Baltic states just five months ago to sensitive sectors like textiles and steel, allow the republics to participate in reguothers wordy, repetitive, stri-dent and eventually hoarse. It is and heads of government, and aid the Balts in conforming their laws on taxes, competition tural values by one man's will to

power: whose various manifes
demands of the Union's single

market. That will put the Baltic states on the same footing as Poland, Hungary, the Czech Republic, Slovakia, Romania and Bulgaria, which expect to begin formal

has promised to grant the same membership prospective, but Italy has blocked the start of talks because of a dispute over property claims resulting from the postwar drawing of the two nations' border.

Beijing Reports Arrests In Fire That Killed 325

sion reported Thursday.

Province also reported a biaze that killed 17 people and injured 9 others on Saturday in a

WARBURG: Merger Is Off

Continued from Page 1 lantic Treaty Organization or range from America's J.P. Morthe Western European Union, gan to London-based HSBC the fledgling EU defense arm, Holdings. Analysts put a likely price tag on Warburg of more than £10 a share, or nearly £2.5

What is more, while other ments will depend on the Baltic British investment banks may have neither Warburg's high costs nor its thin profits, they, too, are widely expected to feel under increasing pressure to link up with stronger partners. Gone is the hope that a Britishbased investment bank could grow into a global powerhouse on its own.

"It has taken the shine off a company that used to be seen as invincible, as taking the British flag to America and Japan," said Johnny de la Hey, an analyst with Société Générale

Strauss Turnbull in London. For the immediate future, though, Warburg is left to soldier on alone. In the first half of the year, Warburg's investment banking arm posted a negligible profit, a shortfall widely attributed in part to the huge drains on the firm from trying to build up its business beyond its Euro-

pean core, By linking up with Morgan Stanley, Warburg, in one swoop, would at last have gotten a vastly enhanced network through which it could have sold its products and services in the United States and Japan. It was a network that it has been struggling to build up on its own for years. Left on its own, Warburg's management now has to go back to the drawing board.

"The most difficult part for them will be to scale back their ambitions," said Martin Cross, an analyst with UBS in Lon-

Others stress that Warburg has no choice but to launch a massive attack on its costs. Many analysts noted that one of the attractions of the proposed merger was that it would have allowed Warburg to tackle its cost problems as part of a post-merger consolidation.

In the absence of that, Warburg is left to make hard choices simply as a matter of restoring its battered bottom line. "It will be harder now to cut those costs," predicted David Toeman, an analyst with Hoare Govert

Following the news of the end of merger talks, Warburg's shares plummeted as much as 11 percent. Analysts nonetheless insisted that the fall could have been far worse. Most expect a new bidder to emerge. Warburg has hung up the For Sale' sign now on their business," said Mr. de la Hey.

By Alan Truscott

bizarre situation occurred Aon the diagramed deal from the final session of the Open and Women's Board-a-Match Team events. The East players, for the first time in their bridge lifetimes, found themselves with eight strong spades facing a partner who had made a vulnerable overcall in that suit.

The bidding continued vigor-ously, and those sitting East bid against seven hearts doubled. tactically in the hope of buying the contract. They were usually unsuccessful, and seven hearts doubled was a common contract, an effective save against a lay-down six spades. The result hinged on the

opening lead. If West routinely led the spade ace, conceding a ruff and sluff, South could escape for down two, either by discarding a club from dummy or, less plausibly, by ruffing in dummy and taking a trump fi-This occurred when two

members of the winning wom-

en's team, Dorothy Truscott

and Tobi Deutsch held the

East-West cards. They lost the

board when their teammates,

Mildred Breed and Hjordis

For the winning open team,

defend a spade game.

Peter Boyd leaped directly to six spades and was doubled by South on the illusory strength of his two aces. Boyd's partner, Steve Robinson scored 1,660 without trouble and that won the board easily, although in the replay West was inspired to lead a diamond, collecting two. diamond ruffs and 800 points

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	The bidding.	

West led the club jack.



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said were a joke, the White

of the senior senator from Georgia, "Where were any of them?"

"Can Clinton remake himself? In a word, no," said Michael Deaver, the Reagan administration image-shaper whose president stood about as low as Mr. Clinton in the polls at this point in his presidency but then came back to a sweeping re-election. "You can do cosmetic things but you cannot reinvent the reason people vote for presidents. That is leaderson. They tried all these things another Democrat. with George Bush, and it didn't work. You can't do transplant

• Robert Redford is reading

"Mander also wrote Four Ar-

'In the Absence of the Sacred'

guments for the Elimination of Television' and both books are

so appropriate in terms of con-

temporary pop culture. It's what

happens to a society that begins to give up what's sacred. So the

land, the culture . . . it's all de-

revolution; for Castro's totali-

tarian élan to devour his revolu-

tionary élan - allying itself at

first with the Communists and

then devouring many of them

as well. Guillermo Cabrera In-

fante writes in "Mea Cuba" of

the months in early 1961 when

the freeze reached the artists

His brother and a collabora-

tor had made a short feature,

best bittersweet film noir man-

Lunes, with the support of

and closed his Lunes.

voice was found most particu-

larly in Lunes de Revolución, bars and dives of Havana in the

In its brief life, Lunes was a dozens of artists and writers,

novelist, critic and hopeless meeting to forestall it. President

in other aspects of the Cuban things are possible."

as decadent.

(Marcelle Katz, IHT)

by Jerry Mander.

stroyed."

BOOKS

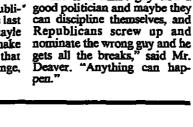
WHAT THEY'RE READING

turn at running Congress, the Clinton White House has been George Bush would and could House could not muster senior engaged in a never-ending de- remake himself, and we were Democratic senators to re- bate about the core of his presispond. "Where was Sam dency and how to reclaim a role Kristol said. "I'm not sure you Nunn?" the Clinton friend said as the champion of middle can, and I'm not sure you Gergen in an in- sho terview on MacNeil-Lehrer News Hour, called it "a struggle for the soul of Bill Clinton" and said such struggles are common in the modern presidency.

> Some who have worked in previous administrations are hìghly skeptical that a president who has consistently stalled at about 45 or lower approval ratings can remake himself and come back.

One poll showed that two-thirds of Democrats questioned gress and nominate a weak ship, and it comes from the per- said he should be challenged by

William Kristol, the Republican strategist who spent his last surgery on a president after two two years in the Bush-Quayle years. You gotta start with a administration trying to remake George Bush's image into that As the triumphant Republi-cans began the leadup to their knows the drill.



opportunistic."

to ring true.

"Mea Cuba" gives the silence a clamorous voice: eloquent and powerful at times, and at obsessed with the wreckage of Cuba's material, moral and cultations the author refers to with

Virgilio Pinero, a timid, flamboyantly gay writer, made his way hesitantly to the microphone. "I only want to say that I'm very frightened I don't know why I'm so frightened but

that is all I have to say." As it turned out, there was not much more to say. Lunes was shut down, ostensibly for a shortage of newsprint; Revolución lasted only a little longer. Franqui went to live in Paris, Cabrera Infante was given a diplomatic job in Brussels, and ner. The authorities banned it a number of Lunes writers found brief employment in the government cultural agency.

It was gradual but relentless meteor, and by far the most was about to publish an indig-removal from the intellectual vital literary publication in Lat- pant protest when the govern- and artistic life of the country. in America. Its editor, a young ment organized a three-day Except for homosexuals among whom were a number of Hollywood buff, thought of Osvaldo Dorticos urged the in-the most talented Cuban artists himself as an "anarcho-Surreal-tellectuals to speak their minds —there were few harsh individwithout fear; Castro made a ual measures. (The jailing of the It took less than two years for speech assuring them that poet Heberto Padilla was a nothe chill of repression to be felt within the Revolution all table exception). The punishment was exile or silence.

such epithets as "Castro Con-vertible" and "Castroenterology."
Cabrera Infante, who has lived in London since breaking with Castro and publishing his satirical novel "Three Trapped Tigers" (a favorable review was one of the things that landed Padilla in jail), is addicted to puns and word games. It energizes him, perhaps, but it depletes the reader.

There are more serious weaknesses in "Mea Cuba." It is a collection of about 60 articles written over a quarter-century and printed in a number of different periodicals. Many of them borrow or repeat from each other; no effort has been made to edit the repetitions out. Furthermore the translation, in which the author took a hand, is

It is a pity because it makes Cabrera Infante's strengths less accessible. Through the personal recollections, portraits, polemics and accounts of the recent and more remote past, he has put together something of a history of the Cuban imagination and character.

Richard Eder is on the staff of the Los Angeles Times.

membership negotiations in 1997 and enter the Union beginning around the end of the decade. Slovenia is the only other Eastern state that the Union

BEIJING - China has arrested or punished 19 officials ment and an enviable record of for a Dec. 8 fire in a movie profitability, the unit has also theater in that killed 325 people, most of them children, in ing card for any potential buyer Xinjiang Province, state televi-

discotheque in Qiqihar.

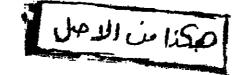
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3d Suice

One impediment in that search will be Warburg's Mercury Asset Management arm. With \$93 billion under manageways been seen as a key drawof Warburg. Now, having effectively asserted its independence A newspaper in Heilongiang and put an end to the merger with Morgan Stanley, Mercury also stands as a powerful potential impediment to any future

T:: : "-"



3d Suicide by a Teen Over School Bullying Unnerves Japanese

TOKYO—The third suicide if fellow victims of bullying of a teenage victim of school bullying in as many weeks shocked Japan on Thursday, and psychiatrists warned that news coverage might have triggered a wave of copycat sui-

In the latest suicide,, a 15year-old high school student in Fukushima, 250 kilometers followed a widely criticized re-(150 miles) northeast of Tokyo, hanged himself in a forest, leaving a suicide note that identified three classmates as bullies, the

police said Thursday.

The string of suicides has the string of suicides has the issue and smells of hypocri-been the top item on newscasts sy," Dr. Nada said. "The report and talk shows as Japan tries to was based on rhetorical quescome to grips with the bullying. tions like, 'Do you know of a pervasive problem in the country's highly regimented *and conformist schools.

In what might have been a spin-off effect, though not over bullying, a 14-year-old boy was also found hanged Thursday, according to police, with a note saying: "There has been a series huge pressure on children of suicides caused by bullying reported in the media, but mine is just an experiment. I just want to find out if people go to heaven or hell." He was found by a teacher in a school building in Yorii, about 50 kilometers southwest of Tokyo.

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The Education Ministry says 21,598 cases of bullying were reported during the last school year. But many cases are believed to go unreported.

Some people blame the bullying on the pressure to conform and to pass difficult high school and college entrance exams, while others say parents are not properly teaching values. Students who are somehow different are often the victims.

A 13-year-old boy in central Japan hanged himself Tuesday after classmates repeatedly scribbled graffiti on his bag, and late last month another 13year-old boy hanged himself after bullies forced him to steal money from home.

There are many, many victims of ijime," or bullying, said Inada Nada, a child psychologist. "But the massive media coverage could have destroyed the precarious psychological balance in some of these vic-

tims, leading them to suicide." The expert in classroom problems said teenagers might

were choosing death.

The suicides led Prime Minister Tomiichi Murayama to hold a special cabinet meeting to discuss bullying in schools.

After the meeting, the Education Ministry issued a formal directive urging teachers to crack down on such bullying. It port issued by the ministry this week on statistics showing bullying cases on the decrease.

That report is typical of cold, bureaucratic handling of ijime in your school?' No headmaster or teacher will ever voluntarily admit such cases in their own schools."

Most media coverage pointed the finger at the ministry. Some experts blame it for creating a system of education that puts

"That pressure is relieved in forms of ijime against classmates or violence at home." said Kazuhiro Mochizuki, a schoolmaster of 36 years and now a commentator.
In the latest suicide, police

said the boy was being ostracized by a form of bullying called "cold silence," which cuts off a victim from the rest of his class or inner circle. School officials said they were aware he was being ostracized.



Students paying respects Thursday to a bullied schoolmate who killed himself Tuesday.

Socialist Will Do the Conservative Thing

TOKYO - In another break Minister Tomiichi Murayama of Japan is going to play the

Washington card to beef up his political standing. Mr. Murayama announced Thursday that he will meet with President Bill Clinton at the White House on Jan. 11. Mr.

Murayama reportedly requested the official meeting. During the 40 years that Ja-

Democratic Party — despite the name, the most conservative of with his Socialist past. Prime Japan's major parties - prime ministers regularly made trips to Washington when they wanted to demonstrate their leader-

> Democratic Party regularly criticized the trips, saying Japan was too close to Washing-

But to become prime minis-(Reuters, AP) pan was ruled by the Liberal ter as head of a shaky coalition

Democrats, Mr. Murayama has dropped almost all of his party's basic tenets. Now, he is doing what his conservative former adversaries used to do -heading off to Washington to confer with the U.S. president.

Mr. Murayama's Social The prime minister says he plans to talk to Mr. Clinton about arrangements on both sides of the Pacific for comry of the conclusion of World War II. memorating the 50th anniversa-

Congress (I) Searches Its Soul Voting Rout in India Imperils Party Leader

By John F. Burns New York Times Service

NEW DELHI - After 2 series of four state elections gave it one of the worst drubbings in its history, the governing Congress (1) Party has moved into bitter internal wrangling that has centered on the leadership of the prime minister and on the wideranging program of market economic reforms he has led since taking office in 1991.

In the state elections whose results became known over the weekend, the Congress (1) Party was reduced to a rump in two key southern states that it previously governed, Andhra Pradesh and Kamataka, as well in the small Himalayan state of Sikkim.

to hang onto power in a coali-

The scale of the rout appeared to sturt Prime Minister P.V. Narasimha Rao, who had campaigned vigorously in all four states, telling voters that the outcome would be a popularity test for his government and its economic policies.

The Times of India reported that party officials who attended a series of crisis meetings between senior Congress (I) Party officials in the last three days quoted Mr. Rao as saying, "This is not only a loss but a total collapse of the party, something which has never happened before in the country's history."

The ministers who tendered their resignations were Health Minister B. Shankaranand, Food Minister Kalp Nath Rai and Rural Development Minister Rameshwar

[The resignations brought to four the number of cabinet ministers who have offered to step down after being named in connection with either a

is no obvious successor.

In the coastal state of Goa. also among the smallest of India's 25 states, Congress (I) lost its majority in the state assembly but appeared likely

[Three members of Mr. Rao's cabinet offered to quit on Thursday as the Congress (I) Party moved to clean up an image tainted by corruption charges, Reuters reported from New Delhi.

sugar import scandal or a

\$1.2 billion stock market moving the Congress (1) Par-scandal.} moving the Congress (1) Par-ty away from the secularism

For the time being, the 73year-old Mr. Rao appears likely to hang on as prime minister, partly because there But after harsh exchanges

at the meetings, which were held to review the state results, senior Congress (1) Party leaders were quoted in several Indian newspapers as saying that Mr. Rao may have to be ousted if the next round of elections, in five more states in February, turn out as badly for the party as the ones just concluded.

The mood was keyed to fears that a run of disastrous state elections could set the stage for a similar result in a

Party leaders want to counter a perception that Congress (I) has become "antipoor."

national election that must be held before May 1996, when the Rao government's parliamentary mandate expires.

If the February elections go as dismally for the Congress (I) Party as current opinion polls in the five states suggest, voters in states with a total population of 370 million people, about 40 percent of India's population, will have moved against the party.

According to newsaper accounts, the party meetings in recent days have focused on several issues on which Mr. Rao was seen as vulnerable: his leadership, which has been widely criticized within the party as irresolute; highlevel corruption, which many in India believe to have reached new levels in a country accustomed to venality among senior officials; and the pace of the economic changes, seen by some as too slow and by others as too rapid or, in some cases, wrong-

Since the debacle in the state polls, Mr. Rao has also and social egalitarianism that the party asserts are its basic principles.

Senior cabinet ministers have said publicly that Mr. Rao has alienated India's 93 million Muslims by tilting government policies toward the Hindu majority, and by giving the appearance, with the economic reforms and other policies, of favoring the interests of the upper castes in India's rigid social struc-

Many in the party believe its collapse in Andhra Pra-desh and Karnataka, the two southern states, resulted from the desertion of two key "vote banks" - Muslims, who are a large minority in Andhra Pradesh, and the rural poor.

In particular, Mr. Rao has been rebuked for having promised Muslims that an ancient mosque in Ayodhya in northern India that was destroyed by a Hindu mob in December 1992 would be rebuilt, then falling silent on the pledge while assuring Hindu fundamentalists that a Hindu temple will be built on

the site instead. But it is on the issue of the economic reform, which Western governments have hailed as a sign that India is catching up with the fastgrowing economies elsewhere in Asia, that Mr. Rao has been catching the greatest

According to accounts in several Indian newspapers, the party leaders who met with Mr. Rao recently demanded early changes to counter what they described as a growing perception that the party has become "antipoor" by adopting policies that have opened up India to foreign investment and begun dismantling a vast apparatus of state controls.

These moves, say the party leaders, have so far brought few tangible benefits to the 350 million Indians said to be living in poverty.

"We simply cannot win any elections with this image," said Narain Dutt Tiwari, one of several senior Congress (1) figures considered possible challengers for been widely criticized for the party leadership.

UN Appeals for Asia's Exploited Children The world's largest and fast- gress in several fields, including of the World's Children report.

BANGKOK — The Asian region's economic success has come at the expense of increasing child abuse and exploitation, representatives of the United Nations Children's

Fund said Thursday. "We are still seeing the cruel companions of poverty such as the economic, social and sexual exploitation of children," said Daniel J. Brooks, the Unicef regional director for East Asia and the Pacific. "This remains a growing and formidable problem in this region."

Mr. Brooks was speaking at a have persuaded themselves they briefing on Unicel's 1995 State future."

The report, released Thursday, est-growing youth population immunization levels well above says that more than half a milincludes 100,000 child prosti- 90 percent, the predicted elimilion of Asia's 500 million chil- tutes in Thailand, more than nation of polio by the end of the dren work in sweatshops. 200,000 street children in China decade, the elimination of iobrothels or on the streets.

"We are seeing the erosion of family values, and that includes the exploitation of children." Mr. Brooks said at a news conference.

Ambassador Sandra Mason, port said. deputy chairman of the Geneva-based UN Committee on the Rights of the Child, said: "We a resource that needs protec- least basic health care and a take them for granted. We say tion, said Anthony Hewitt, a primary education. children are the future, but we Unicef official who works in don't make provision for the Thailand.

and 75,000 working children in dine deficiency disorders and Malaysia, the report said.

The increased disparity between rich and poor also has led sexual discrimination, the re-

The report highlights pro- gion.

capsules to prevent blindness. Unicel's strategy to combat to malnutrition, illiteracy and abuses against children has

the distribution of Vitamin A

been to lobby for ratification of the Convention on the Rights of The region's societies will the Child, which guarantees the have to realize that children are rights of children to receive at

The convention has been ratified by 17 countries in the re-(AP, Reuters)

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A Stain on Turkey

A Turkish court has sentenced eight Kurdish members of Parliament to prison for doing what representatives in a democracy are supposed to do - speaking out in behalf of their constituents. Washington was right to protest this gross injustice. It is a stain on Turkey's human rights record.

Even worse, it is a blow to Turkish democracy. It violates the principle of parliamentary immunity that is essential to representative government. It also threatens to polarize Turkish politics by driving Kurdish dissent out of normal political channels and into the violent arms of Kurdish separatists. Only a prompt pardon by Turkey's president, Suleyman Demirel, and the return of the legislators to Parliament could undo some of the damage. Washington would be wise to seek that,

Many of the country's millions of Kurds are integrated into Turkish society, but those who have sought to maintain their ethnic identity have faced discrimination and worse. The Kurdish language is banned; Kurdish human rights workers and journalists have been the victims of death squads. Others have "disappeared" while in the custody of

security forces. The government has turned its Kurdish policy over to the army, which is seeking a purely military solution. In its war on Kurdish separatists it has turned southeastern Turkey

into a killing field, destroying villages and driving out the civilian population. The main effect of this misguided strategy has been to generate recruits for separatism and radicalize Kurds who want nothing more than their rights as citizens.

Instead of seeking political accommodation with the Kurds, the government banned the Democracy Party, which draws on Kurds for support. Seven of its elected deputies, along with one indepen-dent, were arrested and held in preventive detention on trumped-up charges. None were accused of acts of violence. and only one of any act at all -allegedly giving shelter to five members of the separatist Kurdish Workers Party, or PKK. Their main offense was saying things that the military and the government preferred not to hear. After a procedurally tainted trial, the eight are now being sent to prison, some for 15 years. Ankara needs to correct this injustice

and change its ill-conceived course. - THE NEW YORK TIMES.

Poor, Middle and Rich

You are going to hear a lot in the months ahead about the rich, the poor and the middle class in America, as in "middleclass tax cut." All kinds of policy is likely to be made, or at any rate fought over, on the strength of which of these groups it supposedly benefits at whose expense, and what the principle should be on which government decides who should get more and who should get less. But the terms are enormously vague as well as elastic, and they tend to group together people in very unlike circumstances. It is worth thinking about their meaning before the argument reaches the shricking point.
The term "poor" is ancient, but nowa-

days, at least in politics, is generally taken to mean the federal definition of poor. There are income thresholds that rise each year with inflation and below which people are deemed by the government to be poor. Last year the threshold was \$14,763 for a family of four, \$11,522 for a family of three and in the \$7,000 range for single individuals. Some critics say the thresholds are too low, others that they exaggerate poverty in that they count only cash income and not the considerable value to lower-income people of noncash benefits such as food stamps, Medicaid and housing assistance. It is also a fact that the poor are not a monolith in that the exact same people are not below the thresholds every year or even every month nor at every stage in their lives. But some people do stay in the category, at least for very long times.

Last year about 39 million people, a seventh of the population, lived in families with incomes below these cutoffs. Fewer than 10 percent of them were elderly. Rather, the largest single group consist-ed of people at the other end of life: 40 percent were children. A third of the chil-dren were black, they lived disproportionately in female-headed households, and 60 percent were receiving welfare. But generalizations tend to be treacherous. A lot of these children are also in families with both parents present in which at least one member works the equivalent of full time

year-round; their wage doesn't make it for them. The Census Bureau also says that half the female-headed families living below the poverty thresholds earn at least a part of their income each year, and earnings make up more than a fourth of the

total income of the group.

The bureau also publishes figures each year dividing all households into income quintiles. These give a sense of the scale of incomes across the society. Last year the lowest-income fifth consisted of households with incomes (as measured by the bureau) up to \$12,920. The next fifth went up to \$24,730; the next to \$38,860, the next to \$60,544. Everyone above that was in what tends to be called the "richest fifth," and above about \$100,000 in the richest 5 percent.

Government does a fair amount of rearrangement of income across the society through the collection of taxes and payment of various benefits. How fairly it does that, and with what cause, is part of the current argument. A common reading of the election returns is that people in the middle-income zones particularly believe that they are paying too much (and not always to recipients much needler than they) for too little in return. The Congressional Budget Office has estimated that people in the lowest income quintile pay percent of federal taxes; for the next quintile the share is 6.1 percent, then 12.4, 20.9 and 59.2. Benefits, by contrast, are pretty evenly spread across the groups; the lower three get a little over 20 percent each, the upper two a little less.

But those are statistics only, and statistical averages are not going to settle a dispute as fundamental as this. The gut the fairness of the system and the matter of definitions — the rationale for what government does in terms of those who are characterized as poor, middle-class and rich. A good place to begin the dis-cussion would be with the question of where on the scale of income the middle class begins and ends.

- THE WASHINGTON POST.

A Nuclear Page Turned

The Tennessee Valley Authority's decision to halt construction of three nuclear plants is the symbolic death notice for the current generation of reactors in the United States. By the TVA's reckoning, these were the last nuclear units still under construction in the nation. The TVA once had the most ambitious nuclear program in the country, with 17 reactors on order. But, as it turned out, the agency built only five nuclear units, of which only three are currently operating.

The reasons for the latest abandonment are the same that curtailed other nuclear construction around the country ballooning costs and uncertainty about when plants could finally be brought on line. Although the TVA had already spent \$6.3 billion on the units and they were from 57 to 88 percent completed, the authority estimated that it could cost up to \$8.8 billion more to finish the job. That was simply too much when it already felt overburdened with debt, some 44 percent of which had been spent on its nuclear program.

That leaves a substantial but aging base of nuclear plants in operation around the country. Today 109 such plants produce 21 percent of the nation's electricity, providing a significant supplement to coal-fired units.

But the old dream that nuclear power might become a centerpiece of the nation's energy structure evaporated years ago. Not a single new nuclear plant has been ordered since 1978, and some nuclear units already in operation or ready to

start have been shut down.

The demise of the American nuclear industry can be traced to several factors - a slowdown in demand for electricity, public apprehension over nuclear risks, recurrent increases in the cost and time to build new plants, and a failure to operate as reliably and efficiently as expected.

Those factors could always change. Indeed, if global warming truly becomes the world-threatening issue that some environmentalists fear, countries everywhere will be looking for alternatives to the fossil fuels - coal, oil and natural gas - that now form the backbone of energy supplies. The world might then turn toward such alternatives as solar or wind power -or to a new generation of nuclear plants.

The nuclear industry is already seeking federal certification for the next generation of plants, pushing research on even more advanced reactors, and counting on other nations to demonstrate the effectiveness of next-generation nuclear plants - just in case they are needed.

- THE NEW YORK TIMES.



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For Security To the West Of Russia

By William Pfaff

71LNIUS, Lithuania — Affecting every political conversation in Vilnius is an unspoken fear that the new independence of the Baltic states will not last. Russia's invasion of Chechnya, which proclaimed itself independent in 1991, reinforces this fear.

Stalin once said to the Finns, at a time when the Soviet Union was making security demands upon that country which would limit its sovereignty, "I am not responsible for geography." The Lithuanians, Latvians and Estonians are also in such a geographical situation. That is why Moscow considcred itself justified in incorporating them into the U.S.S.R. between 1940 and 1990.

Unlike Estonia and Latvia, Lithuania has a substantial history as an independent nation, including a period between the 13th and 18th centuries when, either independently or in union with Poland, it was one of Europe's most important states, at one point dominating the entire East European region from the Baltic to the Black Sea. The Great Power partitions of Poland in the 18th century left Lithuania annexed by Russia, a condition that lasted until World War I. The country was again independent be-tween the world wars.

Its problem of proximity to Russia is complicated today by the fact that it has Russian Kaliningrad (the former East Prussian Königsberg) to its west, whose land communications to the rest of Russia necessarily go across Lithuania.

Kaliningrad is an important industrial center as well as an ice-free port for Russia. and difficult negotiations are going on between Vilnius and Moscow on whether Russia will have some form of extraterritorial rights with respect to its link to Kaliningrad or whether its shipments must conform to the same rules that Lithuania imposes on other transnational military freight and movement. The sensitivity of the subject for both sides is obvious.

What the Lithuanians would like most is membership in NATO, which in the immediate future they certainly will not get. However, they have reached agreement with the European Union on a program for joining it, and that will bring membership in Europe's military organization, the Western European Union, which will offer a considerable political reinforcement to their security.

But they and the other two Baltic states and Ukraine remain the most vulnerable of



the new/old nations that have come out of the collapse of the Soviet Union.

Chechens and the other aspirant nations in the ex-Soviet Caucasus would dispute that attribution of maximum vulnerability, but the Chechen (and Ingush) peoples' claims to independence have no international recognition and historically are weak. The international community will do nothing for them.

The Chechens certainly have a long history as a turbulent and independent tribal people, bitterly resisting Russian conquest in the 19th century, rising again against Moscow after World War I and during World War II. For that they paid even more heavily than the Baltic peoples paid for their interwar independence and wartime resistance to Russia, on Germany's side. Stalin deported the entire Chechen-Ingush people to Siberia. They returned to the Caucasus only in the late 1950s.

Whatever the human sympathy evoked by the Chechens' present attempt to secure their independence, they are most unlikely to succeed, although they could impose considerable punishment on Russia's forces if it comes to sustained war. They, too, are victims of geography.

It is unfortunate that the question of security for the historical nations in Eastern Europe has been posed in terms of NATO membership. The consequence is that even the hypothesis of expanding NATO to Lith-uania and the other Baltic states is treated by nationalists in Moscow as a provocation,

while to leave them out now would suggest that they are being abandoned. Moscow would be seriously mistaken to think the latter. The Western powers are committed to the Baltic countries' independence.

They have failed to think intelligently about what to do to assure it, which is a dangerous lapse.
In fact, Russia needs a stable and indepen-

dent Lithuania in a stable and secure Eastern Europe. Instability on its western frontiers has always meant trouble for Russia; NATO is, or should become, a guarantor of that stability. Zbigniew Brzezinski writes very sensibly (in the forthcoming issue of Foreign Affairs) about the need now to bind Russia into a new cooperative security framework that includes the major NATO powers but would be distinct from NATO itself.

That surely is the way to go. NATO's expansion to Russia, which some propose, in nonsense; no Western government is going to guarantee Russia's eastern frontiers against China (which is what membership means) or against Japan (the Kuril Islands still are disputed between Russia and Ja-pan), or defend its southern borders. Russia doesn't need that. It needs a Eu-

ropean security mechanism linking it to NATO, by which the security of the Baltic states and the rest of Eastern Europe is mutually guaranteed - and, with that, Russia's own security.

International Herald Tribune. C Los Angeles Times Syndicate.

The Smart New Weaponry Can Also Help Keep Peace

By Ruth Wedgwood

N EW YORK — The Republican victory in congressional elections will not spell the end of American participation in peace operations. The Pentagon has conchided that its future work must include international firefighting.

American theater commanders will soon be ordered to develop detailed plans for humanitarian crises and other likely regional troubles, Pentagon sources say. This planning will allow the

National Command Authority to assess more accurately what can and cannot be done by U.S. forces in a humanitarian crisis, and how U.S. capabilities can be married to those of allies. A conservative majority in Con-

gress will not undercut this view of the real world. Many measures favored by conservatives to bolster U.S. war-fighting strength will also buttress humanitarian peace operations. Technological innovation, readiness training and contingen-cy planning will both sharpen the Pentagon's "win-hold-win" strategy for two major regional conflicts, and improve interna-

YEW YORK — In October 1992 an obituary with this

headline ran in The New York

Times: "Harold Brown Sr., 61,

Investment Executive." That de-

scription was right, as far as it

went, but it did not capture the

essence of Mr. Brown's life. If it

For a long time I've been

had, it would have read: "Har-

old Brown Sr., 61, Did Good."

meaning to write this particular

column, and it's somehow fitting that it turns out to be my last.

For more than 20 years I've been

a reporter, a job that people say

is sure to make you cynical and has somehow only left me more idealistic. For the last five I've

been here, in this space, consid-

ering the great issues of the day.

are the same as they were when John the Baptist said, "He that

has two coats, let him give one

to him that has none." The great

issues are the same as they were

when Charles Dickens created

the ghost of Jacob Marley, mis-

the specter cried, the lesson learned too late. "The common

"Mankind was my business,"

That is the most important

thing I have learned in the news-

paper business, that our busi-

ness is one another. Time after

time, story after story, I have

learned it from everyday angels.

homeless on midtown subway

grates and, instead of looking

away, organized a small shelter

in his parish church, was one. So

was Arlene Carmen, who died earlier this year; she spent her

Mr. Brown, who saw the

anthropic man of business.

welfare was my business."

But the great issues, at base,

tional humanitarian operations. Throgh innovations in transport ability, for example, American technology can provide support for foreign peacekeepers without

involving U.S. combat forces. Poor roads and port facilities have seriously hampered international relief efforts. But in crises, new helicopter technology will boost the ability of relief agencies to reach refugees in remote areas. The Huey and the Black Hawk helicopter can fly only 200 miles

(320 kilometers), before turning back. The new Osprey V-22 can fly 2,100 miles without refueling. For peacekeeping, this will allow multiple stops to position protective forces, supply food to endangered civilians, create safe zones, or evacuate injured refugees. The Osprey is also well adapted to regional war-fighting. It can reach a conflict area by island-hopping across the Atlan-tic or Pacific, arriving weeks

ahead of naval vessels. Also useful for decentralizing

'People Are Really Good at Heart'

By Anna Quindlen

nights in a van on Eighth Ave-

nue, bringing coffee and cake

and a place to consider the fu-

Like Ebenezer Scrooge, I've walked the streets, seen good-

ness in the dark places, and shed

the frosty rime that's said to

come with my profession. I've visited the Holy Apostles Soup

Kitchen in Manhattan, where

every day volunteers feed 1,000

hungry people, and the York

Street Project in Jersey City,

home and school alike for women looking for a second chance.

I've been to schools where

teachers bring imagination and

intellect to life, and hospitals

where the nurses bring comfort

and joy. This morning I could

visit Tavem on the Green, where

the Robin Hood Foundation is

having its annual breakfast.

Founded by three anti-Marleys,

Wall Street traders who cleaned

up big time in the '80s and de-

cided to invest in empathy, the

foundation gives money to

groups that shelter, feed and

fight for the city's poor. Leaders

of those groups will speak of their work, and the who's-who

audience will, as always, be daz-

zled by the simple spectacle of

They do dazzle, the everyday

angels, just as the angel did in

the Christmas story, scaring the wits out of the shepherds. But

the angel said "Fear not," and

that's what I've learned from its

contemporary counterparts -

the rape counselors, the good

unabashed humanity.

ture to street prostitutes.

peace operations is the new C-17transport plane, designed to replace aging C-141s and C-5As. Uniquely, it can operate from short dirt landing strips, yet haul an 80-ton cargo. This means it can carry the equipment needed for light infantry peace deployments - armored personnel carriers and Humvees, even a tank. In Rwanda and Zaire, delays in deploying ground equipment held up the work of United Nations protection forces.

The C-17 can also dispatch the heavy machinery (bulldozers and backhoes) needed to create sanitary conditions in refugee camps and the water tanks needed to save lives from cholera.

A Pentagon analyst reviewing the recent effort to provide clean water for Rwandan refugees has urged greater emphasis on trans-portability in the design of military equipment. Too often, equipment has been designed that is too large to be moved except by sea or C-5A, unless it is dismantled.

cops, the nuns, the librarians. Life will be hard, politics will be

mean, money will be scarce, bluster will be plentiful. Yet somehow good will be done.

I've been lucky to be in this

business at a time that was infi-

nitely interesting, when women were more welcome. I've been

lucky to work at a newspaper

that stands for the very best that

newspapers can provide, lucky

to have had a conversation in

print with millions of familiar

strangers. I've gone places I nev-

er would have gone, met people I never would have met.

The greatest of them are these: Ellen Baxter, Al Cohall,

Steven McDonaid, all the others

-you know who you are. You

stand in opposition to a spiritu-

al isolationism that makes ici-

cles of our insides and a hard

little lump of coal of our hearts.

says on the tip cup at a Village

coffee bar. If we do not reach

out, it is we who will be alone.

The great issues are the same

as they were when 15-year-old

Anne Frank, three weeks shy of

discovery in her attic hideaway.

less than a year from death in

Bergen-Belsen, wrote in her

shabby plaid diary: "In spite of

everything I still believe that

people are really good at heart."

The heavenly hosts prove it ev-

ery day, with cons, with comfort,

with boxes of tissues on their

desks. I leave you with good tidings of great joy. Those who shun the prevailing winds of cyn-

icism and anomie can truly fly.

The New York Times.

Fear not; Anne was right.

"Karma is a boomerang," it

There are numerous C-130 aircraft in Europe, Latin America and Asia. If smart equipment can be fitted to the dimensions of air transport shared among regional powers, this will help to distribute the burdens of deployment in peacekeeping and perhaps even in regional conflicts.

Recycling surplus Soviet military equipment is another productive track. The plain design of Soviet equipment — operable with few replacement parts and low maintenance in harsh environ-ments — can be useful for peacekeeping troops in remote areas. Many of the helicopters used by UN forces in Africa have come from Russian surplus, in commer-cial leases. Still cheaper would be Russian equipment destined for the scrap heap under the 1990 treaty on Conventional Armed Forces in Europe.

Improved readiness training is also important to both peacekeeping and war-fighting troops. Both require many of the same skills— such as careful discrimination between civilians and combatants in targeting decisions, the ability to operate independently, and a keen sense of strategy.

Contingency planning is another area where the U.S. military is justly renowned. Preserving the depth of experience on the plan-ning staff that designed Opera-tion Desert Storm will be useful

to peacekeeping forces as well.
War-fighting capacity and
peace operations needn't be zerosum in nature; technological innovation, readiness training and careful planning are at the heart of a military capable of both jobs. Surely, liberals and conservatives can agree on that.

The writer, a senior fellow at the Council on Foreign Relations and a professor at Yale University, contributed this comment to the International Herald Tribune.

Europeans, however, know that culture is often an excuse to kill those who are different, and that the far tighter economic interdependence in Europe before World War II was no protection at a time of great-power dissatisfaction and instability.

In recent years when Europeans have suggested that Asiac might learn from the European experience in managing interde-pendence and formulating arms control, they were accused of neo-imperialist tendencies and wanting to play up problems in Asia to

weaken rising economic rivals.

The challenge for Europe is to find a more focused agenda for dealing with Pacific Asia. Building institutional links between the European Union and Asia will help. Europe could begin by concentrating more on North-east Asia, which offers obvious

and are not averse to working issues. Northeast Asia is attuned to the need for an effective balance of power.

human rights and talk of power balances. The harshest rhetoric in Pacific Asia about Europe often comes from Southeast Asia.

IN OUR PAGES: 100, 75 AND 50 YEARS AGO

1894: Tall Cycles

PARIS -- The Salon du Cycle, or bicycle exhibition, at the Palais de l'Industrie has now been open for over a week, and still the public flock to see it. Last Sunday [Dec. 9] 15,000 persons passed through the turnstiles. Visitors should not leave without a glance at the immense monocycle, the diameter of the wheel of which is 2 mètres 50 centimètres. One would consider the monocycle to be the tallest "velo" in the place, but for the Tour Eiffel bicycle which stands 10 ft. high. It has been ridden, the only difficulty to a good equilibrist being mounting and dismounting.

1919: Wilson Adamant

NEW YORK - The President suddenly last night [Dec. 15] ended all talk of Treaty compromise by a definite official declaration that he would not entertain any

idea of compromise, nor make any concessions to the Senate majority. Apparently he has thrown the entire League of Nations issue bodily into the 1920 Presidential campaign. The announcement of the President's determination to stand like a rock for unreserved ratification came as a surprise.

1944: Mindoro Landing

ABOARD A LIGHT CRUISER OFF MINDORO — [From our New York edition: After a daring run through the central Philippines archipelago, Rear Admiral T. D. Ruddock brought him convoy safely into Mindoro Strait early today [Dec. 15], and in the gray twilight of a murky dawn American doughboys poured ashore on the low, marshy coastline of southwest Mindoro — only 125 miles south of Manila. This was the "farthest West" in the offensive to regain the Philippines.

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Europeans P Seek Links With Asia

By Gerald Segal

LONDON — In Europe it is often hard to look beyond the front pages filled with the war in Bosnia and the sleaze of European governments. Yet there are increasing signs that Europeans, peering ahead, realize that the largest changes in international affairs will come from Asia.

The European Union, to beam with, is crafting a new Asian strategy to take full advantage of the region's growth. Germany is catching up with Britain and France, urgently seeking to forge a coherent policy toward Pacific Asia. Intra-EU trade appears to have peaked, but the value of Enropean trade with Asia goes on growing sharply.
Interest in Asian security is

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also increasing in Europe. A European Council for Security Cooperation in the Asia-Pacific sector, formed recently, seeks to promote discussion on ways of securing Asian stability and prosperity. EU thinking on Asia is at a turning point.

With the end of the Cold War, Europeans see the weight of Pacific Asia growing in everything from trade and investment to conventional arms sales and the risks of nuclear proliferation. China's rise reminds Europeans that the global balance of power is shifting and that the world is almost always a more dangerous place when it tries to accommodate an emerging giant.

Europeans are appalled by the relative neglect of security concerns in the Asia-Pacific region. For many Europeans, Asian and Pacific security was something for the United States to worry about, but now the American military role is in retreat. East Asia pays more rhetorical than real attention to regional security, trusting in supposedly unique cultural values and economic interdependence.

trading opportunities.
South Korea and Japan are

keen to reduce their reliance on the United States. And those two countries have advanced furthest in entrenching democracy with Europeans on human rights By contrast, Southeast Asia is

jumpier about democratic values, Nonetheless, Europe could of-

fer advice to Southeast Asia on how to deal with maritime disputes. European experience, especially French and British, in helping Asian countries develop a wider role in United Nations peacekeeping also offers much scope for technical cooperation.

The writer is a senior fellow at the International Institute for Strategic Studies in London and director of Britain's Pacific Asia Program. He contributed this comment to the International Herald Tribune.

Letters intended for publication should be addressed "Letters to the Editor" and contain the writer's signature, name and full address. Letters should be brief and are subject to editing. We cannot be responsible for the return of unsolicited manuscripts.

OPINION

Forget the Genetic Excuse And Avoid Fattening Food

By Kelly D. Brownell

NEW HAVEN, Connecticut -Despite the impression given by headlines declaring the discovery of a "lat gene," high-fat foods combined with inadequate exercise remain the primary cause of America's obesity epidemic.

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But while the government has imposed so-called sin taxes on cigarettes and alcohol to reduce consumption, it has yet to consider taxing low-nutrition foods or banning commercials for fatty snacks targeted at children.

Society has long placed responsibility for obesity on the sufferer. Freud said that a person's unconscious conflicts created an irresist-

Remove the cheese curls and chocolate bars and the laboratory rats stay thin. Environment is the real

cause of obesity. So why not tax those foods with the lowest nutritional values?

ible need to satisfy oral cravings. When patients did not lose weight after years of psychoanalysis, therapists believed they were in repression and denial, and of course needed more therapy.

More recently, this focus on personal responsibility has intensified through a lens of morality.

Values that American society applands - taking charge, delaying gratification, working hard to get ahead — have shaped the view that the body can be molded at will and that an imperfect body reflects a flawed personality.

Today, dieting is part of the American psyche, discontent with one's shape and weight is the norm and eating disorders are being diagnosed at record levels.

Never has there been more pressure to lose weight. Yet in the past decade, the prevalence of obesity in America has risen by 25 percent. Hence the excitement about the

discovery at Rockefeller University of a gene linked to obesity in mice and the likelihood that there is a similar gene in humans. It is tempting to claim that weight

gain is beyond individual control. True, this scientific breakthrough may eventually lead to drugs that pounds. But we must be careful not New York Times.

to overstate the role of genetics to the degree that we have overemphasized personal responsibility. For most people, the answer

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lies elsewhere. Laboratory rats given convenience store delights —cheese curls, chocolate bars, marshmallows,

cookies - will ignore available nutritious food, even as their body weight doubles and triples. Yet we do not fault these animals for a lack of discipline, nor need we change their biology. Remove bad

foods, and the rats stay thin. Environment is the real cause of obesity. Congress and state legislatures could shift the focus to the environment by taxing foods with little nutritional value. Fatty foods would be judged on their nutritive value per calorie or gram of fat.

the highest tax rate. Consumption of high-fat food would drop, and the revenue could be used for public exercise facilities bike paths and running tracks or nutrition education in schools.

The least healthy would be given

Unfortunately, children will still want to eat unhealthy food. At the Resilient Belgrade very age that eating habits are being formed, the average child sees 10,000 food commercials per year many using popular cartoon characters or sports heroes to push soft drinks, candy, fast food and flattening of my hometown, Belsugar-coated cereals.

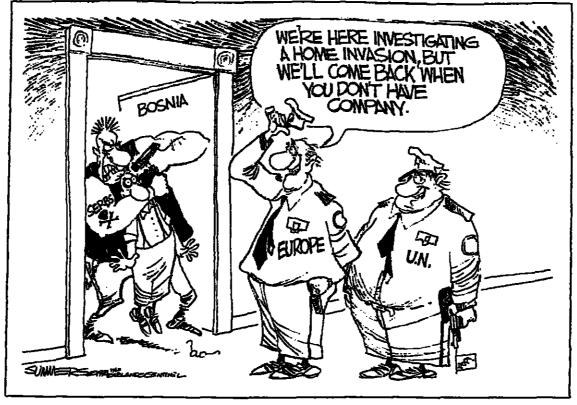
We allow vending machines with snack foods in schools, and tolerate juncture of two rivers. On warm deceptive advertising — potato days, its green streets are full of chips high in saturated fat are trum-children. For them, the town is a peted as having no cholesterol. Then we despair at the rising obesity rates ton, where Mr. Hoagland works. among youths, call on scientists to blame the children.

Since the government controls cigarette and alcohol advertising aimed at children, a similar rationale should and Muslims. Maybe Mr. Hoagland apply to unhealthy foods.

decisions in the face of clever com- send a message to Serbian leaders. mercials, and they should not be inundated with constant temptations to eat some of the most processed, calorie-rich, fat-laden foods on the planet.

We might lose weight by studying genetics or changing personal be-havior, but the true battle must be waged against an increasingly seductive environment.

The writer, a professor of psychology at Yale University; is director the Yale Center for Eating and Weight Disorders. This comcould help some people shed excess ment was contributed to The



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Regarding "U.S. Cover in Bosnia Will Have to Be War" (Opinion, Dec. 12) by Jim Hoagland:

grade, might be necessary. My hometown is beautiful. It sits at the

Flattening Belgrade could, of find solutions and, even worse, blame the children. course, pose certain problems, such as "collateral damage" — which means killing civilians. Belgrade is home to a large proportion of Croats should ask them their opinion about Children cannot make mature seeing Belgrade flattened in order to

> I love Belgrade, it is like a flower. It has been flattened 43 times - by Romans, Byzantines, Austrians, Magyars, Bulgars, Turks, French, Germans, English and others, but it has always risen again from the ashes.

> Professional advice-givers suggested the splitting up of Yugoslavia in the first place; their advice led to the suffering and destruction of Bosnia-Herzegovina, a smaller Yugoslavia. The proposed flattening of Belgrade — an even smaller Yugo-slavia, with its mixed population will not solve anything.

> > LJUBOMIR PESKIREVIC.

Speaking the Language

Regarding "Europeans Back Off on Bosnian Pullout" (Dec. 10) by William Drozdiak:

Europe thus far has not been able to produce an alternative to the only nguage the Serbian political and military leaders seem to understand violence. The Americans speak this language superbly and efficiently. It is past time they were permitted to get on with it.

STEWART MANVILLE. White Plains, New York.

A Banquet for Hunger Regarding "Red Carpets Are No Cure" (Letters, Dec. 8):

I agree wholeheartedly with Bernie Dresner. A sickening example of the waste of money and lack of concern for the object of a meeting was a banquet held Sept. 29, 1990, at the United Nations. Some 70 heads of state feasted at great expense while discussing ways of feeding povertystricken children. During the banquet thousands of children around the world died of starvation.

NORMAN SANDERS. Drammen, Norway.

The Bomb: Bottom Line

Regarding the debate over how to commemorate the dropping of the atomic bomb on Japan, apologists must remember. This was a war

started by Japan with the merciless Rape of Nanking, and then followed by further atrocities — the Bataan death march, the use of forced POW labor on the Burma-Thai railway, the recruitment of Korean "comfort women," medical experiments on unwilling Chinese prisoners, and the cold-blooded attack on Pearl Harbor. By these and other barbaric actions, Japan set the ground rules for the conduct of the war. Whether the bomb was a knockout punch applied to a game fighter or to one on his last legs is irrelevant. The atomic bomb put a brutal and ruthless end to a war typified by such acts. The United States has nothing to apologize for.

BRAD COULTER. New Delhi.

Should We Blame Miranda?

The editorial "America Betters Britain" (Opinion, Nov. 29) criticizes the British Parliament for changing the warning that police are required to give to people suspected of committing crimes, and it compares the new warning unfavorably to the celebrated "Miranda" warning, one of the fruits of the activist U.S. federal judiciary in the 1960s. The rates of murder, rape and armed robbery in Britain are about one-lifth of the U.S. rates — but America is better because it has a better warning?

> KENT GORDIS. Geneva.

Then, at Least, We Knew What Made the Chevy Run

By Richard Reeves

TOS ANGELES — The streets of L this city are the aisles of the world's greatest automotive museum. The sweet weather, which means no snow and ice, which means no sait and sand on the roads. which means little rust, preserves old cars — and when they do show their age there is so much money

MEANWHILE

around here that some inspired fool puts up thousands upon thousands of dollars to restore, say, a '55

Chevy Bel Air. I have been thinking about that year's Chevy, which I lusted after as a teenager, because it is the 40th anniversary of my father's favorite in secrecy in 1952; it was followed a magazine, American Heritage. The year later by the first Soviet bomb.) people there asked me to write about the year they began, which I would have done for nothing.

The 1955 cars appeared in September 1954. I doubt that there is a male my age in the United States who does not remember the first time he saw the amazing new Chev-rolet or Ford's first Thunderbird, which came out at the same time looking under the hood and at that

new overhead-valve V-8. I know that more important rise and fall of Joseph McCarthy among them — but the first thing I think of is that 162-horsepower Chevy, which could be given historical significance by pointing out that putting a big engine in a small car meant that for the first time the poor, or at least the middle class, could drive as fast as the rich. Back under the hood 40 years ago

-and here is the point: A guy could understand everything in there. The fanbelt and the generator, the plugs and the points, the needle valve on the carburetor. In 1954, we knew how everything worked — or thought we did. A typewriter, for oped "solar power" - and was one instance. Now open up the hood of a of 20 purchasers of thinking-ma-

computer and tell me how it works. That, of course, can be interpreted, and usually is, to mean it was a a unanimous decision in the case of simpler time. But I am not at all sure Brown v. Board of Education. "We it was. In retrospect the past always conclude that in the field of public seems simpler because we or somebody survived to tell the tale. Histo- but equal' has no place," said Chief ry is the way we clean up the mess Justice Earl Warren in the case of we made. Ah, yes, America was the daughter of a black minister de-Number One then. With only 6 per-nied admission to a fourth grade cent of the world's population, we class near her home in Topeka, Kan-Americans had 60 percent of all the sas, because of her race. automobiles on the planet, 58 percent of the telephones, 45 percent of the radios — and 29 million homes already had television sets.

In case anyone doubted where America stood, the Congress modified the Pledge of Allegiance, adding two words, "under God." America's riches were considered the natural order of things, the will of the Almighty. That's the way it seemed and is usually written. But, in fact, Americans were scared all the time.

Scared of what? Of The Bomb, which might be the first thing we Americans thought about that was beyond ordinary human understanding. We were scared of the Reds. The United States exploded its second hydrogen bomb in February 1954. It was small enough to be used, big enough to vaporize Pitts-burgh. (The first one was exploded Beacon Wax celebrated the explosion by running a newspaper ad that said: "The bomb's brilliant gleam reminds me of the brilliant gleam Beacon Wax gives to floors. It's a scientific marvel!" But the fact that the Russians seemed so close behind us was as surprising as it was terrifying.

Senator Joseph McCarthy and more than a few others made a career out of that confused fear by saying that the only way the Russian Communists could have gotten The things happened then — the H- Bomb, or running water, for that bomb, Salk polio vaccine and the matter, was because traitors had giv-Bomb, or running water, for that en them American secrets. His list of the dirty spies began with President Harry Truman and his Secretary of State, Dean Acheson, and sometimes when he had a drink too many he hinted that maybe Dwight Eisenhower was in on it, too.

But the times they were a-changin'. In Boston, three foundation researchers announced that year that they had developed an experimental oral contraceptive, a "birthcontrol pill." Texas Instruments announced in Dallas that it had developed a "silicon transistor." In New Jersey, Bell Laboratories develchines called "computers." On May 17, 1954, the Supreme Court issued education the doctrine of 'separate

We tend to remember 1954 as the quiet and simple time. But we were never the same afterward.

D Universal Press Syndicate.



Let's make 1995 their year.



It's that time again. Time to reflect on the best and the worst of 1994. Time to anticipate a new beginning in 1995.

Some people who especially need one are the children victimized by warfare, abuse, or neglect. Like the Rwandan youngsters

shown above. Waiting to be photographed in a Family Tracing Program organized by UNICEF and the International Committee for the Red Cross.

The program involves a simple and ingenious use of cameras that works like this: A photographer records each child's face, together with an identification number, which is linked to a database holding all available

information on the child. The photographs are then circulated within refugee camps, so relatives or friends can identify the children and joyful reunions can be arranged.

As a company long associated with photography. we're happy to see picture-taking in such a humanitarian role. But we're even more heartened to see UNICEF and many governments, individuals, non-governmental and other organizations working so diligently to improve conditions for children.

We share the UNICEF vision of global well-being through local development. Because we, 100, are a worldwide organization that believes in living and working together for the better-



ment of all people. Through local and individual empowerment. Through social and ecological responsibility. Through constant efforts to improve the quality of life. Because we, too, believe the world has promises to keep. To assure all children of their rights to health, nutrition, and education. To protect all children from exploitation and strife.

And we're sharing this space in the hope that more people will support UNICEF and its work, and more children's lives will be happily resolved in 1995.

It's a New Year's Resolution we'd like to see on everybody's list.

Canon

Children and the Year 2000: Promises to Keep

A message from James P. Grant, Executive Director of the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF).



A little more than four years ago, leaders from 159 countries representing 99 percent of the world's population made a promise at the World Summit for Children. It was the first time that a social issue-not arms

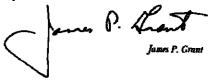
control or a peace treaty or economics or borders-was the exclusive subject of a multilateral summit. The first time that the needs and problems of children were examined at such a high

At that Summit, the world's leaders not only endorsed lofty principles; they also put their signatures to a document committing themselves and their governments to a Plan of Action.

A very detailed Plan of Action that establishes more than 20 specific goals to be met by the year 2000. Including a one-third reduction in under-five death rates. A 50 percent reduction of severe and moderate malnutrition in the under-five age group. And protection for the many millions of children living under especially difficult circumstances.

A Plan of Action that, in effect invites the world and the citizens of each country to hold their leaders and governments accountable for what they do or do not do for children.

Each of us-head of state, legislator, bureauctat or private citizen-must now work to ensure that these unprecedented promises



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Shopping and Weather: The Holiday Mood on City Streets

With a rapidly dwindling number of shopping days until the year-end holidays, we asked our correspondents to take a look at what's hot, or not, in their areas.

Tokyo

In Japan, where the raucous, mindnumbing pinball game known as pachinko is a leading industry, perhaps it makes sense that one of the hottest Christmas gifts this year is a miniature electric Stone Age doll that uses bones or sticks to pound out a mesmerizing rhythm. The first genjin kotsu, or Stone Age drummer, appeared last year. It proved so popular that this year the maker has brought out a slew of characters wearing different Stone Age garb, hats and haircuts, all pounding drums made either of steel, shell or logs.



As many as 50 can be linked to three different types of lead drummer, who orchestrates a chorus of pops, Latin or rock beats. Genjin kotsu, which cost from 980 to 2,480 yen (about \$10 to \$25), are particularly popular among adults. (Steven Brull)

Hong Kong

Christmas is tough for taitais - which means Mrs. in Mandarin but in its common use refers to women who already have time to shop every day of the year. Not only that, Chinese New Year, another gift-giving time, rolls around at the end of January. I asked some of my taitai friends what they were getting for Christmas for the men, children and dogs who already have everything. Some, exasperated by crowds in the shops, answered, "Nothing." One said: "Something little. Hermès braces, Hermès ties, Hermès scarves." Some taipans — the male equivalent, although the term is not as widely used - are going over the top, buying a second car or a new boat. Others were sticking to traditional Hong Kong fare. such as gems, gold or pearls. Baroque South Sea pearls, which are uneven and less expensive than perfectly round South Sea pearls, are popular, although they still cost from \$2,000 to \$3,000 a strand. Two other standbys are silk and cashmere. Hong Kong retailers aren't taking any chances; they put on big pre-Christmas sales just in case some people thought they had shopped enough during the year. All the major hotels and clubs hold Christmas fairs, where you can find anything from rafia table mats from the Philippines for 10 Hong Kong dollars to folk art from factories in China for 700 Hong Kong (Sherry Buchanan)

Florence

Tastes here seem to tend toward the practical. At ViceVersa (Via Dei Ricasoli 53/r.) a high-end housewares shop, the hottest item is an espresso maker that spews coffee directly into two specially mounted cups. The coffeemaker sells for 26,000 lire (\$15.50). At Feltrinelli, the city's largest bookstore, "Caravaggio As-



sassino" (Caravaggo Assassin) by Riccardo Bassani and Fiore Bellini, for 50,000 lire, and Gioia Mori's catalogue Tamara Dei Lempicka" for 64,000 lire are the season's most popular art offerings. For high-end shoppers, La Casa della Stilografica offers a Tibaldi fountain pen in transparent blue celluloid, a material that unlike ordinary plastic can be polished and will not scratch. It costs 1,000,000 lire. (Ken Shulman)

Brussels

In Brussels, where the useful gift won out over the frivolous (read clothes over toys) in the run-up to St. Nicholas day. lunchtime holiday shoppers who find this town's high prices hard to swallow are sustaining themselves with a new craze. Move over waffles: Pizza by the slice is the street food of this season. (Barbara Rosen)

Madrid

Searching to fill the gap left by last Christmas's mega-present - the Gregorian chants album — Spaniards seem at a loss for a national gift. The monks from the Santo Domingo de Silos are back this season with two new albums of previously recorded material, but neither has matched last year's success. Meanwhile, Bulgarian women in the Bulgarian Voices ensemble have captured a respectable chunk of the Christmas market with their double album, "Voices from Heaven" (about \$21). The big department stores report brisk sales of men's ties, belts and socks and women's accessories, like leather wallets and coin purses. Ditto for kids' computer games. But the unseasonably warm weather has hurt demand for women's fur coats and the street vendors of roasted chestnuts (\$1 for a small bag) were not singing in the rain because there hasn't (Al Goodman) been very much of it.

Frankfurt

Not just jingle bells, but mobile telephones are ringing all over Germany. Competition among manufacturers and service providers has driven down the



price of owning and operating mobile phones. Digital phones that work all over Europe range from 200 to 1,000 Deutsche marks (\$125 to \$625). The new rage is for "designer" phones. The smallest phones and best and chappent sarving though still and best and cheapest service, though still limited to metropolitan areas, come from Nokia and the new E-Plus digital network, (Brandon Mitchener) respectively.

Shanghai

The trendy things to buy this year are artificial Christmas trees and ornaments. At Chang Le Gift Shop, shoppers elbowed their way toward Christmas candles, tinsel and ornaments, all made in China, but only recently of interest to local shoppers. Even though we are not Christians, the young people like to celebrate Christmas by getting together, and the children like it very much," said one shopper. Chang Le offered artificial trees from 2 feet to 9 feet with prices ranging from 22 yuan to 495 yuan (\$2.6 to \$58). At a nearby record store doing a brisk sideline in plastic Santas and Advent calenders, 4-foot-high, already decorated trees were selling for 300 yuan. Plastic Santas were at 20 yuan. Clerks said they had been selling Christmas paraphernália only since 1990. (Kevin Murphy)

New York

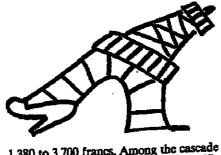
The hot item is underwear, which is busting out all over in the department store ads. Saks and Bloomingdale's report booming lingerie sales inspired by the undressed look on the Paris fashion runways. Bustiers, push-up bras and spaghetti negligees are big. The other big seller is cashmere, inspired by memories of last year's cold winter and fears of a repeat as temperatures drop below freezing. For men, turtle-neck cashmere shirts are on offer at Barneys for \$325, while classic twin sets for women are selling fast at Saks because, said the store's spokeswoman, "nostalgia for the '50s is in fashion, and not just politically." At Bloomingdale's, they are capitalizing on nostalgia with a 35th anniversary Barbie Doll wearing Ni-



cole Miller prints in a limited edition of 15,000. The store's other back-to-the Baby Boom item is "Belly Basics," a four-piece maternity set of tunic, dress, pants, and skirt providing all the necessary changes in stretchable black cotton lycra at \$150. (Lawrence Malkin)

Paris

Since the comeback of the Wonderbra. cleavage is chic. This Christmas, it translates into the boom of the bustier. The Galeries Lafayette has a stellar selection from 175 francs to 350 francs (\$32 to \$65) in black velvet or lace-sequined in gold or jet or 1,950 to 3,300 francs for ruched red satin or petaled organza. At Chanel, cruisewear bustiers come in pink or blue nam (with or 4,500 francs) but their hot gift is the cropped cashmere twinset in ice cream colors trimmed in black "Chanel" bands (11,500 francs). For men, the rage is the dandified waistcoat: in tie-patterned paisley and polka-dot silks, suede, silk brocade or Harris tweed (with matching cap and gloves). Meurison (68 Rue du Bac) has a well-priced selection while at Dior, splashy silk or velvet waistcoats go from



1,380 to 3,700 francs. Among the cascade of coffee table books, Alain de Gourculf's beautifully boxed "Views of the Kremlin and Moscow," featuring previously unpublished watercolors from the Kremlin Museum's collection with a history by its curator, is a favorite. It is available in English for 450 francs at Galignani's.
(Jean Rafferty)

Geneva

Flowers bloom in alpine valleys, the frostline is at a springlike 2,000 meters and desperate ski station chiefs are keep-ing their fingers crossed. As most Swiss ski resorts face another snowless Christmas, a prospect roughly similar to a fogbound tropical beach, a prayerful "Let It Snow" has edged out "Imgle Bells" on the Swiss

yuletide charts. With only a week to go before the holiday rush, only permafrost resorts like Zermatt and St. Moritz are white-carpeted. Medium-altitude places in the Bernese Oberland and the Valais, not to mention the totally snowless Jura, are basking in a tenacious Indian summer and their pre-season is already lost. In a last-ditch counteroffensive, snow cannons are wheeled onto the pistes, but they only work in freezing temperatures, so the artillery is useless where it's needed most. Since everything is unpredictable in the post Cold-War era, an Alpine cold front could still emerge out of the blue, of course. But the Federal Snow and Avalanche institute in Davos warns that sudden blizzards won't do much good because fresh snow needs time to anchor. Unsettled snow creates avalanche hazards for skiing and such ancillary novelties as snowboarding and snowshoe-trekking. But at least, the ingredients for a facesaving White Christmas would still be on time, where it counts most. (Robert Kroon)

London

The endless travails of the Prince and Princess of Wales may play well overseas but in Britain this holiday season only two



books about the royal couple have managed to squeak onto the best-seller list. In seventh and ninth place respectively, Jonathan Dimbleby's "The Prince of Wales," and Andrew Morton's "Diana Her New Life" are badly trailing the top-selling diaries of playwright Alan Bennett plus biographies of British sports heroes and others. Britain's notoriously foul weather has taken a commercially ill-timed turn to the balmy, leaving manufacturers of everything from woolens to winter coats out in the warm. And in the toy shops, desperate parents are lining up for the all-tooscarce supplies of Power Rangers paraphernalia. Sales of computer games, meanwhile, are being hit by a resurgence in the popularity of such kiddie classics as Barbie, teddy bears and board games.

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INE HOFIE GUIDE

Farineili

Directed by Gérard Corbiau. France.

In this age of sexual ambigu-

ity and cultural confusion,

the story of Carlo Broschi, the great castrato of the 18th century, hits popular themes and aims to provide classy entertainment made in Europe. Corbiau, who also di-rected "Le Maître de Musique," has fashioned a massive musical with plenty of high-tech sex, sound and blood. Carlo (Stefano Dionisi) and his brother Riccardo (Énrico Lo Verso) gallop through royal courts, leaving women (Caroline Cellier, Marianne Basler and Elsa Zylberstein) in swoon. They make an unbeatable team: One has the magic voice, the other, a mediocre composer, has the rest. The voices of Derek Lee Ragin and Ewa Malias Godiewska were synthetically matched at IRCAM studios to simulate Farinelli's amazing range and the mix is seamless; the plot is not. Magnificent music — Handel, Pergolesi — costumes and sets never make up for this footloose story that trips over itself trying to explain too rs, who have less than sublime voices and lines to recite, display a tight repertory of facial expressions and eloquent back-

sides. No boudoir secret is

left in the dark, themes of

homoerotic fraternity are

over-exposed, moments that

could be poignant are mud-

dled, except one splendid



Nick Sadler and Michael Douglas in a scene from "Disclosure."

scene of solar eclipse. Somewhere between "Amadeus" and "Tous les Matins du Monde," in time for the holidays, here is the French an-

(Joan Dupont, IHT)

Disclosure

Directed by Barry Levinson. Admittedly it's an awkward situation. A lover from long

gets the promotion you thought was yours and becomes your boss. What's worse, she looks like a trilion dollars and seems to want to pick up right where you left off. Never mind that you're happily married and not the slightest bit interested. In "Disclosure," Barry Levinson's juicy, smashingly entertaining adaptation of Michael Crichton's best-seller, Tom (Michael Douglas) says no, repeatedly and without ambiguity. But Meredith (Demi Moore) won't listen. He's a man, isn't he? But Douglas doesn't play Tom as a man, really, and that's where the naughty, satiric fun begins. As Tom, Douglas is a demure, fragile thing. The true subject of "Disclosure" isn't sexual harassment, per se; it's power and career advancement and how sex, now that women have become major corporate players, can be used as a weapon for getting ahead. The spirit of the film, though, is snazzi-er and more playful than Crichton's rather thin, humorless schematic. The subiect is serious; thankfully, the movie is not.

ago not only resurfaces, but

(Hal Hinson, WP)

Directed by Ron Shelton. U.S.

The gamesmanship explored by Ron Shelton's "Cobb" with baseball. In his story about Ty Cobb, the notoriously sour baseball legend. Shelton wrestles with raw material — a drunken, violent, abusive, bigoted figure —that is indeed raw. So how badly, "Cobb" wonders, does America need its heroes? Badly enough to play by new rules when the star hlete is a miserable man? The answers can't be found in Cobb's glory days, which are dealt with summarily. Instead, those answers come at the 11th hour, with Cobb (Tommy Lee Jones) a bitter old reprobate and Al Stump (Robert Wuhl) a sportswriter hired to sugarcoat his story. "Cobb" unfolds rambunctiously from the sportswriter's perspective. which has grown bittersweet since Stump helped lionize Cobb with the star's 1961 autobiography, "My Life in Baseball: The True Record." At its best, this film explores the edgy compromises that link these two, while at worst it dramatizes the relationship broadly and histrioni-cally. (Janet Maslin, NYT)

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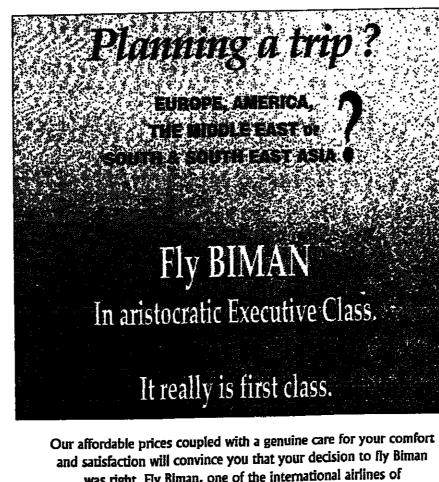
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Fish, and Art Deco, Remain Supreme at Sparkling New Prunier

By Patricia Wells International Herold Tribune

ARIS - In 1925, the year of Paris's Exposition des Arts Decoratifs, Emile Prunier conceived of a restaurant unlike anything anyone had seen in Paris. Gathering the best of the day's designers and architects, he created along the bourgeois Avenue Victor Hugo an Art Deco palace of the purest style: A sparkling blue-green mosaic exterior, luxunous interior walls of onyx and black mar-ble encrusted with bits of glittering gold, Cubist-inspired suspended bronze plaques guiding diners to the varied spots of activity on the restaurant's main floor.

The theme, everywhere, was fish and shellfish. Here caviar, oysters and samplings of everything from littleneck clams

shipped in from the East Coast of America to caviar from the Gironde River in France flowed, making his one of the most celebrated gathering spots of the day. More than simply a great fish restaurant, Prunier offered carry-out full course meals, fresh fish and shellfish to go, even fruits and vegetable to make the meal complete.

Prunier was the first to transfer the shellfish station from the sidewalk to the restaurant's interior, and in its heyday, the restaurant employed no less than 150 people, many working in a double kitchen housed underground, across the street, with a tunnel connecting the restaurant and the kitchen.

Decades passed, and the coterie of faithful diners declined, forcing this Art Deco landmark to close on Aug. 15, 1989. Later Sogo, a Japanese company, purtoration and direction to one of France's most respected restaurateurs, Jean-Claude Vrinat of Taillevent,

The restaurant reopened Dec. 9, and what Vrinat the purist, the perfectionist, has accomplished is phenomenal. Working with some of France's (inest designers and craftsmen, he faithfully restored and rebuilt Prunier to one of the city's most beautiful dining spots. The interior decorator Pierre-Yves Rochon (who created interiors at Les Crayères in Reims, the Hotel Carlton in Cannes and Les Allobroges in Paris) should be applauded for his sensitive creation and extraordinary respect for what came before.

Today's Prunier is a temple to Art Deco. but a living, vibrant one, where every detail -from the wavy white embossed linens to the scalloped marble oyster bar to the blue

chased the restaurant, entrusting the res- and green plates emblazoned with the restaurant's symbolic seahorse — make you feel as though a refreshing, delicate sea breeze has just swept through the room.

"No revolution, only evolution" is Vrinat's theme, and so it's no surprise to find the menu remains ultra-classic. No trendy tuna tartares, no wacky combinations, just orthodox, sure-footed fare. True to the Prunier tradition, a good portion of the menu is devoted to fresh fish and shellfish. ranging from no less than nine different oysters, Breton sea urchins, clams, langoustines and crab. Fans of the copular bordelais combination of raw oysters and grilled sausages will be delighted to see the "assiette Saintongeaise" on the menu, along with a selection of caviars and smoked salmon.

My single visit netted mixed results on

marinated scallops, sliced thickly and bathed in a tangy lemon-cream sauce, was pure, light and satisfying. As was a main course offering of the freshest of langoustines, pan-fried to perfection, tender, sweet and cloudlike in texture. I loved the idea of the fricassée of shellfish—sautéed clams, mussels and oysters - tossed with chunks of artichoke hearts, an unusual but compelling combination that provides a great balance of acidity, a pleasing nuttiness and a smooth, appealing texture. The dish, alas, lacked that "just came from the skiller" brilliance that it should have. A classic grilled turbot with an exquisite

As at Taillevent, the wine list is worth the detour all on its own. Prices are reasonable, with several wines priced at 100

hollandaise was expertly prepared, but it,

too, left me feeling there was something

francs or less, including Domaine Bertrand's Bourgogne Aligoté, a red Bor-deaux, Côtes de Blaye, Château Les Moines, and Domaine Frick's Alsatian Sylvaner. Many wines are also available

by the glass or half bottle. At the moment, no reservations are taken for tables or the oyster bar on the main floor, where the menu of prepared foods is limited but all the raw fish and shellfish are available. Upstairs, reservations are currently limited to 25 persons, allowing the dining room and kitchen staff to adjust slowly to their new surroundings.

Maison Prunier, 16 Avenue Victor Hugo, Paris 16; tel: 44.17.35.85. Closed Sunday evening and Monday. Credit cards: Ameri-can Express, Diners Club, Visa, Fish and shellfish platters from 120 to 280 francs (about \$22 to \$52) per person. A la carte, from 250 to 500 francs.

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AUSTRIA

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English

Vlenna Paleis Liechtenstein, tel: (1) 317-Paiels Liectnensien, tei: (1) 311-6900, closed Mondays. To Jan. 8. "Hubert Schmalix." The Austrian artist is a representative of the New Painting of the late 1970s and 180s. His subjects include nudes, houses and timuse of Christ. and figures of Christ.

BELGIUM

Brussets
La Monnaie, tel: (2) 218-12-11.
"Cosi Fan Tutte," directed by Luc
Bondy, conducted by Paul Daniel
with Joan Rodgers/Solveig Kringelborn and Juliane Banse/Patricia Biccire. Dec. 17, 18, 20, 21, 23, 27, 28,
29, 30 and 31.

BRITAIN

British Museum, tel: (71) 323-8525. open daily. To April 23: "Byzantium: Treasures of Byzantine Art and Culture." Relates the story of the Byzan-

HEAR THIS

■ Daniel and Remy Lehner (he's a businessman, she's a fashion show coordinator) have bought the (New York) Majestic Theatre's 1,609 seats for "Phantom of the Opera" for their second wedding anniversary on Dec. 12, 1995. A friend and public relations man told Reuters they have seen the

show 98 times and met at a performance in 1988.

tine empire through 250 works of art. including a gold ornament dating back to the foundation of Constantiback to the foundation of Constanti-nople, Cretan icons, illuminated manuscripts, sculptures and glass. Tate Gallery, tel (71) 887-8000. open daily. Continuing/To Feb 12. "From Gainsborough to the Pre-Ra-phaelites: Works on Paper." A selec-tion of British watercolors, including lenderces by Turner drawnors by landscapes by Turner, drawings by Rossetti and engravings by Stubbs.

Musée d'Art Contemporain, tel: (514) 847-6226, closed Mondays. To Jan. 8: "The Origin of Things." Sculptures and installations by seven contemporary Montreal artists DEMMARK

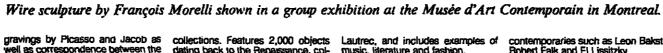
Humlehaak

Louisiana Museum for Moderna Kunst, tel: 42-19-07-19, open daily. Continuing/To Feb. 5: "Toulouse-Lautrec and Paris."

FRANCE

Centre Georges Pompidou, tel: (1) 44-78-40-86, closed Tuesdays. Continuing/To Feb. 1995: "Kurt Schwitters." 300 paintings, collages, sculptures, typographical works and poems created between 1910 and 1947 by the German-born artist.

Institut du Monde Arabe, tel: (1) 40-51-38-38, closed Mondays. To March 26: "Couleurs de Tunisie: 25 March 26: Couleurs of funise: 25 Siecles de Céramique." Phoenician, Roman, Byzantine and Islamic ce-ramics from Tunisia, including dish-as, lamps, amphoras and tiles. Musée Picasso, tel: (1) 42-71-25-21, closed Tuesdays. To Feb. 6: "Max Jacob et Picasso." Documents the relationship between the French poet and painter and Picasso. In-cludes paintings, drawings and en-



Kunst- und Ausstellungshalle der Runst- und Ausstellungsnalle der Bundesrepublic Deutschland, tel: (228) 9177-200, closed Mondays. To Feb. 26: "Wunderkammer des Abendlands." A journey through the history of European museums and

gravings by Picasso and Jacob as well as correspondence between the two artists.

Collections. Features 2,000 objects dating back to the Renaissance, collected by Europeans and now belonging to Scandinavian museums and private collectors.

Kunsthalle der Hypo-Kulturstif-tung, tel: (89) 22-44-12, open daily. To Feb. 26: "Paris: Belle Epoque." The exhibition presents Belle Epoque paintings, prints and other works by artists such as Vuillard and Toulouse-

Palazzo Ducale, tel: (10) 591-106, closed Mondays. To Jan. 29: "Marc Chagall e il suo Mondo tra Vitebsk e Parigi." The works created by Chagall between 1908 and 1918 illustrate the influence of Russian Judaism on the painter. Also includes works by

contemporaries such as Leon Bakst, Robert Falk and El Lissitzky.

Kasama, Ibaraki Prefecture Kasama Nichido Museum of Art, tel: (296) 72-2160, closed Mondays. To Dec. 25: "Raoul Dufy." 120 works by the French artist.

Bunkamura Museum, tel: (3) 3477-9252, open daily. To Dec. 25: "Euro-Fundaci

by European painters.

NETHERLANDS

Amsterdam Rijlksmuseum, tel: (20) 6-79-81-46, closed Mondays. To Feb. 26: "The Art of Devotion, 1300-1500." Features 50 late-medieval objects of private devotion, such as paintings, miniatures, prints, wood carvings. Among the artists represented, are

POLAND

The National Museum, tel: (2) 621-1031, closed Mondays, To Feb. 19: "The Collection of Boleslaw and Lina Nawrocki." Works from the Nawrocki collection, including 300 paintings, watercolors and drawings by Mela Muter. Also features works by Leo-pold Gottlieb, Alicia Halicka and other Polish painters who spent some time in Paris early in the 20th century.

SINGAPORE

Empress Place Museum, tel: 336-7633, open daily. To April 30: "Song, Yuan and Ming: Life in the City." Features exhibits from the Song, Yuan and Ming dynasties from 960 to 1844 to give glimpose of the busting life in towers and cities of the pariod.

SPAIN Barcelona

Fundació La Caixa, tel: (3) 404-6073, closed Mondays. Continu-ing/To Jan. 22: "Kandinsky/Mon-drian: Dos Caminos hacia la Abstracción." Documents the parallels and differences between the two painters in their early phases.

tel: (91) 369-0151, closed Mondays. Continuing/To Feb. 12: "El Siglo de Oro del Parsaje Holandes." More than 70 paintings of Dutch landscape paintings in the 17th century. Includes paintings by Hendrick Avercamp, Jan van Goyen, Ruysdael and the latter's nephew, Jacob Ruisdael.

SWITZERLAND

Musée d'Art et d'Histoire, tel: (22) 311-43-40, closed Mondays. To May 7: "Icones: Donation Mayromichalis." Icons from Crete, the Ionian Islands and Venice, dating from the 16th to the 19th centuries.

UNITED STATES

Walters Art Gallery, tel: (410) 547-9000, closed Mondays. To Jan. 15: "Gauguin and the School of Pont-Aven." More than 100 works charting the development of the post-impressionst school. Includes 16 paintings by Gauguin, and works by Bernard, Serusier and Denis.

New York

Metropolitan Museum of Art, tel: (212) 570-3791, closed Mondays. To Feb. 26: "Thomas Eakins and the Metropolitan Museum of Art." Paintings, watercolors and drawings showing the museum's continuing interest in the American painter's work. Whitney Museum of American Art, rel: (212) 570-3633, closed Mondays and Tuesdays. To March 12: "Franz Kline." Black and white works by the Abstract Expressionist painter.

Washington Washington
Arthur M. Sackler Gallery, tel:
(202) 357-2700, open daily. To
Aug. 27: "Paintings from Shiraz."
Documents the art of the Persian
book created in the city of Shiraz
from the 14th to the 16th centuries,

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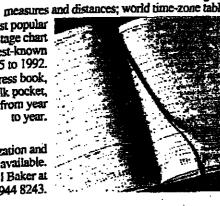


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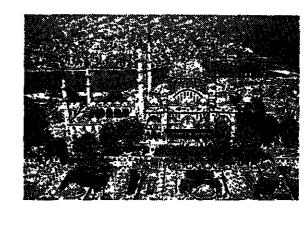
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THE TRIB INDEX: 111.65 International Heraid Tribune World Stock Index ®, composed of 280 internationally investable stocks from 25 countries, compiled by Bloomberg Business News. Jan. 1, 1992 = 100. 12/15/94 close: 111.65 Previous: 111.16 Approx. weighting: 37% Close: 112.05 Prev.: 111.73 Close: 123.64 Prev.: 121.82 Approx. weighting: 5% Close: 130.77 Prev.: 133.41 Close: 95.18 Prev.: 95,19 The index tracks U.S. dollar values of stocks in: Tokyo, New York, London, and Argentine, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Brazil, Carada, Chile, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Hong Kong, Italy, Mexico, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Singapore, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland and Versezuela. For Tokyo, New York are Singapore, Spain, Sweden, Switterland and V London, the Index is composed of the 20 top as 111.86 112.10 -0.21 112.86 112.03 +0.74

TENERGY CONTRACTOR CON

China: Shares for Foreigners in '95

By Kevin Murphy

ral Herald Trib SHANGHAI — Although China is quickly reforming its economy, direct foreign ac-cess to its large locals-only stock markets is not coming as soon as many investors had been encouraged to believe.

Nonetheless, a proposal to allow limited overseas participation in the domestic, or Ashare, market --- a move with far-reaching potential impact on the country's overall development - is likely to take effect in 1995, according to a senior Chinese securities-market regulator.

"Once we make the first step there is really no going back, so everyone has to be sure we're doing the right thing," said Bei Duoguang, deputy director of the China Securities Regulatory Commission's international de-

Mr. Bei was referring to the debate within the government over whether to allow foreign fund managers into the Ashare market via closed-end investment funds jointly owned and managed with Chinese securities houses.

Currently, foreigners are restricted to investing in B shares, Chinese securities denominated in foreign curren-cies. B shares entitle foreigners to equal dividends and voting rights as Chinese invessame companies.

China's currency, the yuan, are restricted to governmentis not yet freely convertible. approved export and joint-This, according to Mr. Bei, venture companies. "But remains a greater obstacle to there is concern that this change in the eyes of the cen-could be wrongly interpreted tral People's Bank of China as a signal of the pace of the than worries about increased overall convertibility policy." foreign ownership of the Allowing foreign institu-country's leading industrial tional money into China's do-

tors who have A shares in the the nationwide system of for- take a more sober view of dayeign-exchange markets that

mestic markets would help "We could just allow these tame their endemic volatility, joint ventures to convert their supporters of such a move money as other joint ventures have argued, as professional do," said Mr. Bei, referring to money managers are likely to

U.S. Lawyers Quit Shanghai

SHANGHAI - Baker & McKenzie, a major U.S. law firm, has pulled its lawyers out of Shanghai under government pressure, company officials said Thursday, and other Western firms have fears about their future.

Victor Ho, the chief Shanghai lawyer for Baker & McKenzie, resigned last week as president of the American Chamber of Commerce in Shanghai after serving only a few weeks and then left the city. Three other lawyers also left.

The firm's Hong Kong-based senior partner for China, Michael Moser, said that Mr. Ho had moved to Hong Kong. Baker & McKenzie was operating in Shanghai without a license. Lawyers from other major firms have said that they feared they might be told to close. Since 1992, China has given several dozen foreign law firms licenses to operate. They are

allowed to open one office. Baker & McKenzie is licensed in Beijing. Mr. Moser said Justice Ministry officials in Beijing had pointed out the rules to him during a meeting.

They didn't ask us to do anything," he said. "They said, These are the regulations; we're hearing reports from your competitors that there are lawyers present in Baker & McKenzie in Shanghai." to-day trading than millions of individual Chinese investors for whom investment is little more than gambling.

But the recent weak performance of most Asian markets, particularly Hong Kong's, which have suffered as U.S. interest rates rise and fears grow that American investors will withdraw, has given some officials pause, Mr. Bei said.

"We have seen that institutional investors can have short-term views and the impact of large-scale capital flows on local currencies, too," he said.

Despite the debate, which is part of broader deliberations about the stock market's continuing role in changing Chi-na's financial system, Mr. Bei predicted that a "few" joint-venture funds would obtain permission to buy A shares in

"Merging the A- and Bshare markets has always been our target," said Mr. Bei. "The real issue is the question of timing.

At a time when B shares and other Chinese companies listed on exchanges in Hong Kong, New York and elsewhere are slumping, the choice of hundreds more traded only in China under lessstringent corporate gover-

See CHINA, Page 15

France Warns It Will Defend Value of Franc

By Alan Friedman International Herald Tribine
PARIS — As political uncer-

tainty caused the French franc to touch a 12-month low against the Deutsche mark on Thursday, the governor of the Bank of France pledged to defend the currency and warned that "anyone who tries to speculate against the franc will lose."

Jean-Claude Trichet, speaking at the central bank's annual news conference here, contended that there was "no speculation under way against the france and that "I am perfectly calm and screne because the franc is a strong and solid cur-

When asked what actions the Bank of France would take to itating each move of the defend the value of its currency, Mr. Trichet replied "whatever is necessary."

had come under pressure in recent days, choosing instead 10 and credibility and so are they." stress more than a dozen times Separately, Mr. Trichet announced the Bank of France's

lysts is that the franc has weakety after the decision on Sunday measure of money supply. by Jaqcues Delors not to run as the Socialist candidate in next spring's presidential elections.

Despite Mr. Trichet's assurances that the Bank of France is independent, economists and currency traders have noted that since it has been independent for less than a year, the central bank has yet to establish its credibility in a decisive way.

In response to questions about the state of the franc, which on Thursday hit a 12month low of 3.4510 per Deutsche mark before closing at only that since economic funda-mentals in France were good, "the franc has the potential for appreciation not depreciation." Ever since the summer of

1993, when France clung to high interest rates amid deep recession even as Europe's exchange rate mechanism was blown apart by a crisis, the central bank has stuck to its so-called franc fort, or strong franc, policy.

This policy, according to a report Thursday by Brendan Brown, chief economist at Mitsubishi Finance in London, has meant that the Bank of France has been assiduously following German monetary policy (in terms of interest rates) setting rates at a small margin above the German level and im-Bundesbank."

When asked Thursday if he could imagine the Bank of Mr. Trichet declined to offer France diverging from Bundesan opinion as to why the franc bank policy. Mr. Trichet said had come under pressure in re-

was "independent" of both 1995 goals for monetary policy. politics and the government of He said targets included an in-Prime Minister Edouard Balla-flation rate of 2 percent, stabiflation rate of 2 percent, stabilizing the value of the franc The consensus among ana- against other key European currencies, and seeing no more ened because of political anxi- than 5 percent growth in M3, a

He said the French economy would probably grow at a rate of around 3 percent in 1995, following a medium-term growth trend of between 2.5 percent and 3 percent.

Mr. Trichet also said he wished to use the occasion of his news conference to send four specific messages. These were:

• Mr. Balladur's government and future governments must "undertake a decisive reduction" of France's public-sector budget deficit, bringing the to-

See FRANC, Page 12

AEG Chief Senses a Second Wind Coming

By Brandon Mitchener International Herald Tribune

FRANKFURT - Nearly 10 years after it was plucked from the brink of bankruptcy by Germany's biggest industrial group, AEG AG is still haunted by rumors of its imminent demise -- rumors that remain pre-

gic fields — rail technology, store. microelectronics, energy distribution, diesel drives and industrial automation — but dominant in none.

This week, sources outside and inside its parent, Daimler- painful end than pain without Benz AG, have said the company's patience is wearing thin,

glomerate present in five strate- lights altogether, might lie in sell all or part of AEG's energy

"I could imagine Daimler would like to divest it," said Raif Conen, an equity strategist at Salomon Brothers Inc. in Frankfurt. "It's better to have a

A string of divestitures and suggesting that drastic mea-acquisitions has left the one-time electrical and defense con-vestitures or turning off AEG's Thursday that Daimler would

ailing Belgian airline.

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches
ZURICH — Swissair said Thursday

that it had begun "promising discussions

with Sabena with a view to investing in the

The company released a statement late

Swissair said an interest in Sabena

would help it strengthen its position in

Markets have speculated that Swissair was interested in Sabena to improve its position with the European Union.

The company has faced more complicat-

ed relations with Brussels over European

in the day saying its board of directors had

empowered the executive management on Wednesday to take steps toward closer ties

and automation activities sometime next year and fold what remained of the company into other Daimler divisions.

But Ernst Georg Stöckl, AEG's chairman of the past four years, said it was too early to count the company out, citing shrinking losses, rising reve-nue and Daimler's enduring desire to be a big-league player in

See AEG, Page 13

3.4482 in Paris, Mr. Trichet said

Swissair Considers Buying Into Sabena landing rights since December 1992, when

> pation in the European Economic Area, which links virtually all of western Europe in a massive common market.

"This looks like an attempt by Swissair to solve their problem of being Swiss," said Nick Cunningham, an airline analyst at Barclays de Zoete Wedd in London. Belgium's communications minister,

Swiss voters rejected Switzerland's partici-

Elio di Rupo, announced Thursday morning that he would begin talks soon with issair about its interest in Sabena.

The announcement was the latest Belgian bid to pressure Air France into selling its 37.5 percent stake in Sabena.

Belgium is unhappy with the French

carrier's inability to come up with funds for a Sabena capital injection.

In a letter to employees, Sabena's chairman, Pierre Godfroid, said that "Swissair wants to take a significant stake in Sabena's capital," and he added that such a move would strengthen the Belgian airline's equity base.

In 1993, Sabena posted losses totaling 4.5 billion Belgian francs (\$139 million), arousing concern about the company's fu-

The Belgian government, which owns 62.5 percent of the company, said it would not pay any more money to the airline after wiping clean a 10 billion franc debt in

(AP, Bioomberg, Reuters)

Thinking Ahead /Commentar

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Free Trade: How Europe Can Get Even

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By Reginald Dale International Herald Tribune

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TASHINGTON -Suddenly, America thinks it has stolen a big march on Europe in the long-running battle for trade supremacy. In less than a month, the United States has signed up the world's two fastest growing regions — East Asia and Latin America — for future free

The slower-footed European Union is left laboriously forging new links with the still struggling former Communist countries to its East and the volatile Mediterranean nations to its South.

Although the planned Asian and American free-trade areas are meant be "out-ward-looking." Washington is strongly hinting that if the Europeans want full access to these booming markets, they will have to be more accommodating to U.S. trade demands in the future. In another Machiavellian twist, Wash-

ington also plans to play the Asians and the Latin Americans off against each other by setting them in a race for free access to the U.S. market. At the Asia-Pacific Economic Coopera-

tion forum summit meeting in Jakarta last month, President Bill Clinton embraced Asia as the key to America's future.

By last weekend's Summit of the
Americas in Miami, the Latin Americans
had suddenly become Washington's pre-

ferred partners.

This rang a little false. Only a week before Mismi, the Clinton administra-tion had still not decided on a bold Western hemisphere trade initiative.

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a: To buy one pound; b: To buy one dollar; *: Units of 100; N.Q.: not quoted; N.A.; not

But whether by accident or design, the two regions have now both set very similar timetables for free trade. The Western hemisphere countries agreed to start their move to regionwide free trade in 2005. APEC set 2010 for its completion at least among developed countries.

For now the Latin Americans look like throwing themselves into the race far more enthusiastically than the Asians, many of whom are reluctant to open their markets to the United States. It should not be difficult to start the Latin

Excluding agriculture, it should be relatively easy to create an EU-U.S. iree-trade area.

American ball rolling by negotiating Chile's admission to the North American Free Trade Agreement next year.

Some U.S. officials say all this gives Washington a full plate with no time left for Europe. But Americans would be wrong to underestimate the potential of the new markets emerging around the EU's eastern and southern borders.

They would be even more wrong to use regional trade groups for antagonistic purposes, rather than as building blocks of a more open multilateral system — which is where Prime Minister Jean Chrètien of Canada comes in.

CURRENCY & INTEREST RATES

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Mr. Chrétien has just proposed a huge new building block in the shape of an Atlantic free-trade area, linking the EU with NAFTA. It is an idea that makes obvious political and economic sense.

The North American economy has far more in common with Europe than with Asia or Latin America. Trans-Atlantic trade is much better balanced than, say U.S. trade with Japan or China, and more investment flows back and forth across the Atlantic than anywhere else.

One objection is that U.S.-EU trade negotiations would simply revive all the old trans-Atlantic quarrels — over agriculture, government procurement and European film and TV policy — that have caused so much trouble in the past.

But apart from agriculture and textiles, the vast bulk of trans-Atlantic trade is already duty free or nearly so. If agriculture were excluded, it should be relatively easy to create a formal free trade area.

That should help to prevent the world's two biggest trading blocs from drifting apart — and perhaps into conflict — as they form other partnerships.

It could pave the way for another round of world trade negotiations that would consolidate and build on progress made in the regional free-trade groups. But Europe, and above all France, is unlikely to be interested.

That would be a mistake. Pursuing Mr. Chrétien's proposal would be the best way for Europe to counter Washington's strategic advances into Asia and Latin America.

19-year Gill France

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Sources: Reviers, Ljevds Bank, Raies apolicable to inferback d

Key Money Rates

United States

Germany

Cariplo Sets Its Sights on

Romagnolo
Compiled by Our Staff From Disputche MILAN - Italy's largest savings bank, Cariplo, announced Thursday that it was joining forces with two other Italian banks to fight for control of Credito Romagnolo SpA, topping a bid already made by Credito Italiano SpA.

Cassa di Risparmio delle Provincie Lombarde, known as Cariplo, IMI SpA and Cassa di Risparmio in Bologna, or Car-isbo, said in a joint statement that they would offer 21,500 lire (\$13) per share for a 70 percent

stake in Romagnolo.

Credito Italiano has bid to buy up to 63.66 percent of Romagnolo's stock at 20,000 lire per share.

Romagnolo's board had previously indicated it considered Credito Italiano's bid as "friendly," but in a statement on Thursday it suggested it might now switch allegiances.

"This realizes a suggestion already raised by the Romagnolo board in a climate of reciprocal cooperation, for a counter offer which is significantly better than that made by Credito Italiano," Romagnolo said.

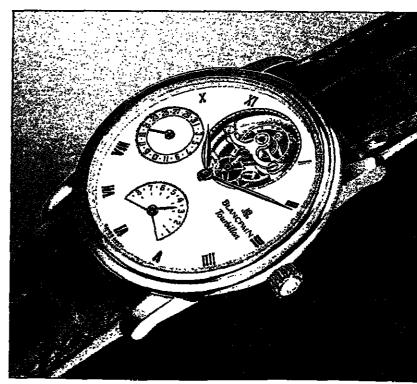
The bank said it would study both offers at a board meeting on Saturday.

Rumors have circulated for days that Cariplo might make a move on the Bologna-based bank, and Credit Italiano has said it would not be prepared to raise its offer in response to any counter-bid.

Romagnolo shares closed on Thursday up 536 lire at 18,347 lire. (Reuters, Bloomberg)

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BLANCPAIN



SINCE 1735 THERE HAS NEVER BEEN A QUARTZ BLANCPAIN WATCH. AND THERE NEVER WILL BE.



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Starcas: ING Bank (Amsterdam); Indoseta Bank (Brusse (Atlan); Assence France Presse (Paris); Bank of Tokyo (Atlan); Assence France Presse (Paris); Bank of Tokyo (Taronto); UMP (SDR). Other data from Reuters and AP.

Dow Jones Averages

High Low Lost

Standard & Poor's indexes

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NYSE Indexes

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NASDAQ Diary

Spot Commodities

Dow Jones Bond Average

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EUROPEAN FUTURES

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Financial

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Year-End Bulls Give Stocks a Boost

Bloomberg Business News

NEW YORK - Stock prices, led by computer networking and chemical issues, jumped Thursday for a ket is on fire," said Paul Weinsecond day amid speculation stein, analyst at PaineWebber. the Federal Reserve Board was finished raising interest rates for this year.

"We're very close to a peak in interest rates," said Wayne Nordberg, money manager at

U.S. Stocks

Lord, Abbett & Co. "The market could push somewhat higher, assuming the Fed doesn't raise rates next week" when its policy-making committee meets, he said.

The Dow Jones industrial average climbed 19.18 points to 3,765.47, adding to the 30.95point advance on Thursday and reaching its highest point since

Advancing stocks outpaced declining issues by a 15-to-8 ra-tio on the New York Stock Exchange, where volume dropped to 332.79 million shares from 354.98 million on Wednesday.

Computer networking companies surged after 3Com posted second-quarter earnings of 55 cents a share, up from 32 cents last year and analysts' estimate of 44 cents. Cabletron, meanwhile, had third-quarter earnings of 59 cents a share, up from 44 cents last year and fore-

The Dow

Daily closings of the Dow Jones industrial average

JASOND

NASDAQ Most Actives

AMEX Most Actives

27/m 11/4 31/m 403/m 125/m 61/2 107/m 215/m 5 133/m

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NYSE Most Actives

casts of 56 cents. "The numbers from 3Com indicate that the switching mar-

3Com climbed 6¼ to a record 48% and Cabletron added I to

Newspaper stocks surged af-ter Gannett, publisher of USA Today and the Cincinnati Enquirer, said Berkshire Hathaway, controlled by investor Warren Buffett, bought a 4.9 percent stake. Gannett itself soared 3% to 51.

Among other publishers. Times Mirror rose 1 to 31%. Tribune climbed 1% to 53%. Knight-Ridder spurted 1% to 49% and Dow Jones rose 11/2 to

Chemical shares also pushed the market higher. Dow Chemical jumped 1 to 67% after rising 3 on Wednesday. Management told analysts Tuesday that it foresaw higher chemical prices, a rebound in European sales and would consider a dividend increase in 1995.

A handful of financial stocks climbed as data released this week continued to fuel optimism that rates would stay sta-

ble, bolstering bank profits. First Fidelity Bancorp rose ¾ to 45% and Federal Home Loan Mortgage added ½ to 51¼.

FRANC: France Pledges Support

Continued from Page 11 tal deficit down to 4.2 percent of GDP in 1995 and 3 percent

in 1996 in order to meet the

Foreign Exchange

criteria set by the Maastricht treaty for eventual monetary union. Trade unions and employ-

ers must "behave responsibly and reasonably" to insure that wage increases remain moderate. Business leaders and other decision-makers should plan in-

vestments that are conducive to inflation-free growth and the creation of jobs. • France's leaders should carry out "major structural reforms" of the country's generous welfare system and rigid

labor market, and in education

and training. ■ Dollar Awaits Rate News

The dollar edged higher against most other major currencies on Thursday, Bloomberg Business News reported from New York.

Traders said many investors were on the sidelines, waiting to see if the Federal Reserve Board would decide to raise interest rates when its policymaking committee meets on Tuesday. Higher rates would tend to make dollar deposits

relatively attractive.

The dollar closed at 1.5711 Deutsche marks, up from 1.5690 DM on Wednesday, and rose to 100.375 yen from 100.300 yen. It climbed to 5.4145 French francs from 5.4100 francs and to 1.3270 Swiss francs from 1.3270 francs. The pound rose to \$1.5630 from \$1.5624.

The Australian dollar rose to three-year high against the U.S. dollar, one day after the Reserve Bank of Australia raised interest rates.

The Australian economy is doing well, rates are going up and the currency is looking attractive," said Paul Farrell, manager of strategic currency trad-ing at Chase Manhattan Bank.

Market Sales

deal Thursday with the United and 17 official creditors in June. States, Algerian state radio

ambassador to Algeria, Ronald which was monitored here.

TUNIS - Algeria concluded terms of the Paris Club agree countries, a source close to the bilateral debt-rescheduling ment made between Algeria group said.

lion, was signed by the Algerian signed bilateral debt deals with mentation of a July agreement Central Bank's governor, Abdeseveral countries including among the Group of Seven louhab Keramane, and the U.S. France, Germany and Canada. leading economic powers to Meanwhile, the Paris Club of write off more debt.

Neumann, reported the radio, creditor governments began on The radio added that the bi- that might grant more generous deal would be reached.

Algeria Reschedules a \$1 Billion Debt with the U.S. lateral deal was implementing debt relief terms for very poor

Industrials

Low

A month ago, officials from Since the Paris Club agree- the group's 18 permanent memment rescheduling a total of ber states narrowly failed to The deal, worth nearly \$1 bil- about \$5 billion, Algeria had reach an accord on the imple-

This time, the source said, Thursday a two-day meeting there was a fair chance that a

ed that the bulk of their earnings from trade goes to pay interest to wealthy creditors.

Despite a fair degree of common ground on the principle of increasing relief for the very poor, the group has failed to agree on detailed terms and conditions, particularly on which nations would be eligible.

Some countries, especially in

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Stock Indexes

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Kerkorian Can Raise Chrysler Stake WASHINGTON (Reuters) — The billionaire investor Kirk erkorian has received clearance from the Federal Today Kerkorian has received clearance from the Federal Trade Commission to raise his stake in Chrysler Corp. to 15 percent from the present 9 percent, the FTC said Thursday.

Early termination of the waiting period under antitrust law was

granted Wednesday, according to an FTC notice.
On Dec. 1, Mr. Kerkorian said he was pleased with the Chrysler board's steps to raise shareholder value. The steps included raising the quarterly dividend to 40 cents a share from 25 cents and launching a \$1 billion share buy-back program starting in the first quarter of 1995. The board also eased provisions of the company's anti-takeover defense plan.

Foreign Chip Sales to Japan Increase

TOKYO (NYT) — The share of Japan's semiconductor market held by foreign suppliers jumped to a record high of 23.2 percent in the third quarter of this year, Japan and the United States

announced Thursday. The figure is up from the 21.7 percent recorded in the second quarter and more than five percentage points higher than the 18.1

percent forcign share in the third quarter of last year.

Officials of the U.S. chip industry said the results showed that a 1991 semiconductor trade accord had clearly worked to open Japan's market. The pact set a goal of a foreign share of 20 percent by the end of 1992 with steady, gradual improvement after hat

SEC Chief Assails County Officials

LOS ANGELES (Combined Dispatches) — The Securities and Exchange Commission chairman, Arthur Levitt, suggested Thursday that voters throw out Orange County officials who allowed the county's financial crisis to happen, as the SEC subpoenaed documents from members of the county Board of Supervisors.

Mr. Levitt said the board had failed to adequately supervise the

former treasurer, Robert Citron, who lost \$2 billion in taxpayer money wagering that interest rates would fall this year. The board never challenged the investments, which included inverse floaters, derivatives that lose value quickly when interest rates increase. The SEC has been probing the role of Merrill Lynch & Co. and its brokers in the loss that forced the wealthy Southern California county to seek bankruptcy protection.

Union Pacific in Talks With Santa Fe

BETHLEHEM, Pennsylvania (Bloomberg) — Union Pacific Corp. said Thursday that it was in talks to possibly improve its \$3.25 billion offer for Santa Fe Pacific Corp., which Santa Fe has rejected as too low and uncertain.

Union Pacific, which has said it will negotiate any aspect of its bid, also asked Santa Fe to clarify the criteria it used to evaluate competing offers. Burlington Northern Inc. and Santa Fe agreed in June to merge their railroads in a stock swap now valued at \$3.22 billion, which would create the nation's largest rail line.

FCC Backs New TV Ownership Rules

WASHINGTON (Bloomberg) — The Federal Communica tions Commission proposed on Thursday to dramatically ease television ownership rules, a move that would let the four broadcast networks vastly expand their size and reach.

As part of a broad reconsideration of television rules, the commission unanimously proposed eliminating a provision that bars companies from owning more than 12 TV stations. It also proposed doubling to 50 percent the total percentage of U.S. households that a network's stations can collectively reach.

Sharp Unveils Personal Assistant

MAHWAH, New Jersey (Bloomberg) - Sharp Electronics Corp. unveiled its new Zaurus personal digital assistant and announced formation of a separate personal information and

communication systems division, stepping up its efforts in the increasingly competitive personal digital assistant market.

Sharp, the U.S. subsidiary of Japan's Sharp Corp., pioneered the PDA seen years ago when it launched the Wizard. PDAs and held sharp communications are supplied to the property of the property o Africa, are so poor and indebthand-held electronic organizers that can serve as both appointment books and portable computers.

For the Record

Sprint Corp. said Thursday that it expected fourth-quarter operating profit at its long-distance division to decline from a record high of \$165 million in the third quarter but to be above the \$133 million in the year-ago fourth quarter.

(AP, Reuters)

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A Table

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Siemens Sticks to Its Diet Job-Cutting Regime Raises Profit Outlook

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches index jumped 27.82 points, to Last month, the company reMUNICH — Siemens AG 2,052.59, and analysts said Sieported overall net income of predicted Thursday that its earn-mens's stock was poised for ings from continuing operations gains next year. On Thursday, it cluded a 344 million DM gain would rise about 20 percent in ended at 623 Deutsche marks the coming financial year, (\$396), up 20.5 DM for the day.

Siemens predicted its income ting the electronics-based conglomerate back to where it was

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look buoyed the entire German last year and about equal to the

especially in the U.S. market.

Help Porsche Slash Loss

STUTTGART — The German luxury sports car maker Porsche AG said Thursday it nearly halved its loss in the financial year ended on July 31 and hoped to make a small profit in the current year thanks to higher sales and lower costs.

Wendelin Wiedeking, who became chairman in 1993 and

was charged with reviving the automaker's fortunes, said that

Porsche posted a loss of 150.2 million Deutsche marks (\$95.5

million) in the year compared with a record loss of 238.8 million DM in the previous year.

Wiedeking said that current sales were above expectations,

Sales jumped 22 percent, to 2.34 billion DM, and Mr.

Mr. Wiedeking said Porsche was back on track after three

years of losses and would post a profit both in the current year

and the following year before the new Boxster model, due out in 1996, powered it to strong profit beginning in 1996.

The chief executive of Volkswagen AG, Ferdinand Piech,

said Thursday that a recent pickup in demand for VW cars

did not alter the fact that "a sustainable recovery of overall

markets is not yet in view," according to a Bloomberg Busi-

ness News dispatch from Wolfsburg, Germany.

He reminded workers that the 7.4 percent increase in global

■ VW Chief Sounds Grim Note Despite Sales Rise

The better-than-expected outthe year that ends Sept. 30, 1995, up from 1.65 billion DM

to about 87.5 billion DM in the current year, up from 84.6 bil-lion last year. "We have the ambition in the next three to stock market, where the DAX 1.98 billion of the previous year. five years to raise the return on shareholders' equity to around 15 percent," Mr. von Pierer Sales Rise and Cost Cuts said, compared with the 9.4 percent of last year. The company

> DM dividend. The company said the number of employees declined by 9,000 to 382,000 in its 1994 year. But not counting gains to the staff that resulted from the consolidation of subsidiaries in the company's accounts, Siemens actually cut 21,000 jobs,

said it would maintain its 13

ported overall net income of 1.99 billion DM, but that in-

Heinrich von Pierer, the chief

executive, said sales would rise

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including 17,000 in Germany. Mr. von Pierer said that Siemens would shed "at least" 12,000 jobs throughout the world, of which three quarters would be cut in Germany because production costs there were much higher than abroad. The cuts would fall on the computer subsidiary Siemens-Nixdorf and on the telecommunications division, as had been the

Analysts said they thought the slimming would help. Heinz Weyerhauser, a DG Bank analyst, predicted Siemens stock would rise to 800 DM next year.

case last year.

(Bloomberg, AFP, AFX)

Surfeit of News in English

By Erik Ipsen

LONDON - By early next year, Europeans with a hunger for international news in English will have a choice of six channels. The problem is that by virtually all accounts, that represents a multiple of what most experts define as "too many."

Even the optimists foresee a bloodbath. "Yes, there are a lot of competitors but not all of them will survive," said Wayne Dunford, European manager for BBC World television, the joint venture between the BBC and Pearson PLC. "We believe that there is room for two international news channels in English." Few disagree.

So great is the surfeit of news programming in the offing that the battle for advertisers has already taken a back seat to the struggle merely to get and hold onto precious cable TV slots. In Europe, many systems are already full.

The four existing channels still trying to expand their distribution now face threats from two new players, which in countries such as Germany and the Netherlands can get on the air only if someone else is booted off. For the established channels like Super

Channel, CNN, Sky and Euro News, the channel jointly owned and run by several Continental television companies, the battle will be to keep the distribution they have. For BBC World and for Dow Jones' European Business News, both of which are to begin broadcasting early next year, the scramble is already on to persuade cable companies to carry their service.

"The big challenge for the new channels is to be seen at all," said Paul McGhee, director of business development at NBC Super Channel, which offers a mix of daytime news and nighttime entertainment. "Competition for advertising comes a long way down the track."

Without exception, the owners of these six channels insist that theirs is a unique and superior service. Most deluge cable operators with voluminous and pricey research to back

The BBC cites its study showing that 87 percent of European business people would

rather watch the BBC than CNN.
Nick Carugati, international sales manager with IP Network-TSMS, the agency charged with selling space for BBC World, concedes a certain predictability to such research. "I would fully expect CNN in the next month to come out with research saying that our research is a load of rubbish," he said.

While everyone talks about the quality of their programming, many executives quietly

MEDIA MARKETS

concede that the battle may ultimately be won or lost on sheer financial muscle.

Like his rivals, for instance, Michael Connor, managing director of European Business News, is quick to disparage the competition. "Are Europeans going to turn to the people who bring them the Tonight Show for business news or are they going to turn to the people who bring them the Wall Street Journal?" he asks.

Those questions aside, however, Mr. Connor concedes that the battle for European viewers may be won on what he calls "staying power" - the ability of half a dozen operators simply to survive financially what looks. to be several years of major outlays and meager income.

Some specialists predict that many tens of millions of dollars will be lost before any shakeout in the market comes about. NBC for instance, is reported to have lavished \$75 million on getting its Super Channel up and running with a distribution that it now claims extends to 60 million potential viewers.

Adding to the forecast misery is the plain and simple fact that beyond the battle for cable slots lies a no less daunting one for advertisers.

So far, advertisers have been painfully slow to accept the idea that they can or should sell their products in English across Europe's still largely in-name-only single market.

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Very briefly:

 Pengeot SA is expected to pay a dividend for 1994 as a result of a recovery in earnings in the second half of the year.

• Renault SA said it would shed 1,735 jobs in 1995 as part of a plan to improve productivity by 6 percent to 7 percent a year.

• Automobiles Citroën SA said it expected its share of the French car market to expand to more than 13 percent in 1995 from 12.6 percent this year.

• Société Suisse Microéléctronique et d'Horlogerie SA, the world's biggest watchmaker, said that it expected 1994 net profit to fall but that income was expected to exceed 10 percent of sales.

 British Gas PLC, whose chief executive got a 75 percent pay rise last month, confirmed published reports that it had approached staff in its gas showroom division about planned pay cuts.

 Belgacom, the Belgian state telephone monopoly, said AirTouch Communications Inc. of San Francisco would take a 25 percent stake in Belgacom Mobile, the country's only cellular telephone carrier. Terms of the deal were not disclosed

 Crédit Lyonnais, which owns 94 percent of the French airline AOM, confirmed that it would give the carrier a 300 million-franc (\$55 million) cash injection.

The European Union approved a decision by Spain's central bank to rescue the Spanish banking group Banco Español de Crédito SA from the brink of bankruptcy late last year, saying that the rescue deal did not fall within EU rules on illegal subsidies because private banks had provided the bulk of capital.

Wolters Kluwer NV, a Dutch publisher, said it had bought the Hungarian publisher Novorg and taken a 40 percent stake in two others, Mueszaki Konvykiado and Invencio.

 Rabobank's Dutch work force is expected to decline by an average of 1,000 people annually in the next few years from the current 35,000.

DSM NV, the Dutch chemical company, is expecting 1994 profit to "clearly exceed 400 million guilders," or about \$228 million, according to Simon de Bree, the chairman. AFX, Reuters, Bloomberg, AP

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deliveries in the first 11 months of 1994 had been spurred by U.S. and Asian sales while demand in Germany was weak. AEG: Industrial Group Is Headed Into a Second Wind, Its Chief Maintains

Continued from Page 11

some of AEG's main markets. While refusing to rule out individual divestitures, Mr. Stocki in an interview, said AEG was poised to benefit from its ongoing reorganization

not an ongoing repair job, but ness, its lighting unit and its changing the company to fit a strategic focus," he said, con-

tradicting public opinion. "We want to be a leader in terms of technology and prodnct, we want to have a competitive cost position and we want to be able to influence the relevant markets," he said. "We spent 450 million Deutsche with cost cutting, he noted. have divested from operations marks (\$286 million) — its biggets and, in the other areas, we either have achieved it or they face this challenge."

Indeed, over the last year, and would — really — return to profitability in 1996.

AEG has sold its huge appliances division, two meter mak-"Most of what we're doing is ers, its traction technology busi-

It has also announced joint drive systems and is trying to find a rail technology partner.

where we cannot meet these tar- gest investment in three years on sales currently ranged from company that was previously a joint venture partner. AEG is the world's leading manufacturances division, two meter mak- er of mail and parcel sorting

Of his previous bad luck predicting a return to profitability, Mr. Stockl cited "dramatic and rail systems technology this changes" in the company's opventures in automation technol- erating environment: Rail ogy, drive systems and diesel product prices have fallen 30 percent over the past 18 months and electric motor prices 50 In September, meanwhile, it percent, too fast to compensate booming market.

tion Inc., a U.S. mail sorting percent," depending on the unit. AEG's immediate goal is an average 3 percent return overall.

Of its current performance, Mr. Stockl said AEG's sales performance in its key semiconductors, automotive electronics year had been better than the competition's.

AEG is also the world's second-biggest supplier of gas gencrators for airbags, another

IG Metall Curbs Pay Claim

FRANKFURT -- The leader of Germany's largest trade union, IG Metall, said the union would end up settling for less than the 6 percent pay rise that it was demanding in 1995 collective-bargaining talks.

"These demands aren't an ultimatum," Klaus Zwickel, head of IG Metall, said Wednesday night. "If so, we wouldn't have to conduct negotiations. We will conduct our wage negotiations and then, in the end, it is clear that our demands won't fully be met."

IG Metall, the first big union to start wage talks for next year, serves as a beliwether for other German unions. So Mr. Zwickel's comments could set the tone for next year's pay claims. IG Metall, which represents 3.6 million workers in the machinery, steel, auto and metalworking industries, is calling

for a "real wage increase" to offset two years of wage reductions Mr. Zwickel did not indicate how far he might be prepared to back down from the 6 percent.

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Manila Stocks Rise As Strong Economy Beats Rate Fears

MANILA - Stocks surged more than 2 percent here Thursday as good news about the economy conquered old fears of higher interest rates.

Gabriel Singson, the gover-nor of the Philippine central bank, said the International Monetary Fund would agree to let the Philippines raise its moncy supply to support its acceler-

ating economic growth.
He said a visiting IMF team
had been impressed with the country's economic growth and slowing inflation.

Mr. Singson said money sup-ply levels next year would be enough to support growth that is expected to top the 5.5 percent annual expansion rate registered in the nine months to September. Analysts said that a higher money-supply target could lead to lower interest

Analysts also said investors were encouraged by signs that the U.S. Federal Reserve was through with raising interest rates this year. That removed a threat to the market and put the spotlight back on the domestic

> For investment information Read THE MONEY REPORT every Saturday in the IHT

Thursday at 1.13 dollars.

director at Marlin Partners.

nance hardly appears neces-

But when first vaguely sug-gested in August in a package of

measures designed to boost lo-

cal-investor confidence in

fledgling markets, which had slid to perilous lows, the move

helped drive up markets in

While local investors as-

sumed more new cash would

soon lift their shares out of the

doldrums, foreign securities

firms quickly lined up potential local partners and sent propos-

als to Beijing, where signs of action are scant.

market has lost about 40 per-

cent of its value since reaching

highs in September. The B-

share market has fallen by

about 25 percent over the same

"So far, China has done a lot

to develop the market, but we

need more industries and more

companies to chose from," said Paul Vibert, head of research at

Baring Securities in Shanghai.

Even if there are only 20 or 30 jewels among hundreds of A-

share companies, which I think

there may be, the exercise is worth it," he added.

Many analysts said they believed that in the short-term A-

share companies would be forced to improve their overall

performance and corporate-re-

porting standards as Chinese investors begin to value compa-

In the interim, the A-share

Shanghai and Shenzhen.

PW Asia Brokerage.

Bad Start for China Issue

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispar

HONG KONG - Shares in Oriental Metals (Holdings), a

metals trader controlled by the Chinese government, fell about 25 percent in their first day of trading Thursday.

The initial offering of the shares was only 59 percent subscribed at 1.50 Hong Kong dollars (19 U.S. cents), indicat-

ing a lack of interest on the part of investors. The stock closed

listed companies in the wake of the poor performance of

debuting companies recently," said Kinson Au, an analyst at

have led to cool receptions of new offerings recently. On

Tuesday, shares of Chengdu Telecommunications Cable Co.

fell 13 percent on their first day of trading.

Weak demand and a flood of issues by Chinese companies

There's a lack of understanding of metals-related compa-

Oriental Metals is a subsidiary of ONFEM Holdings, an

investment company controlled by the state-owned China

National Nonferrous Metals Industry Corp. Both companies

are chaired by Wu Jianchang, son-in-law of Deng Xiaoping,

"Investors are reluctant to accumulate shares in newly

"Bets are still on the Philip-pines," said Ariel Halili, a portfolio manager with All Asia Capital & Trust Co. "We're only starting our growth."

The Philippine Stock Exchange composite index rose 61.95 points, to 2,679.85. Near-ly eight stocks rose for each one

Another vote of confidence in the Philippine economy was cast by the American Chamber of Commerce of the Philippines. The chamber announced that U.S. companies would invest at least 25 billion pesos (\$1 billion) to expand their Philippine operations during the next

"You're winning the battle for investors' dollars," said William Tiffany, the organization's president. He is also chief executive of Caltex Philippines Inc., an oil company.

U.S. businesses, Mr. Tiffany said, believe that under the administration of President Fidel V. Ramos, "progress is being

Wednesday's ratification of the Uruguay Round of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade also fueled the rise in

Most analysis said they thought the Philippine economy had not yet hit full stride. The Asian Development Bank has forecast that gross domestic product, which excludes income from abroad, will expand 6.2 percent in 1995, compared with 4.6 percent this year.

(Bloomberg, Reuters)

state agencies, which dominate their share registries.

to develop their fund-manage-

ment experience, also believe

that the first joint-venture

funds approved will be approved in 1995, although few

claim to know the status of the

deliberations in Beijing.
"We are talking with many

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CHINA: Beijing's Plan to Widen Foreign Access to Markets Set for 1995

But the price of such change Shanghai International Securi-

may be less direct control over ties Co., one of China's largest, such enterprises by Beijing or of the joint-venture A-share

by provincial governments and fund plan under consideration.

'Robin Hood' Steps Down

After bursting

economy and

riding out the

Mieno is leaving a

38,915.87, and urban land

prices had spiraled beyond

flated asset prices would dis-

tort the income equality that

underpinned Japan's postwar

social stability. Building on

an increase in the official dis-

count rate by his predecessor,

he doggedly raised the central

bank's key lending rate to an

August 1990 peak of 6 per-

slid, the myth of ever-rising

property prices crumbled,

and financial institutions

were left with mountains of

While Mr. Mieno's fight

bad debt.

The result: Share prices

Mr. Mieno argued that in-

the reach of most people.

the bubble

recession.

economy.

transformed

TOKYO - Yasushi Mieno

ends his stint as Japan's chief central banker on Friday, but he says he is not abandoning another important vocation helping pick the nation's sumo champions.

"I want to stay on the Yokozuna Promotion Council until I'm 80," the 70-year-old governor of the Bank of Japan said, referring to his post on the panel that decides which of Japan's sumo wrestlers are worthy of becoming grand champions.

Sumo aside, he ends a grucling five-year term with Japan's economy in far different shape from when he took over and with mostly high marks for his role in prompting painful changes.

One commentator dubbed Mr. Mieno a financial market "Robin Hood" for bursting Japan's so-called bubble economy, and he was ranked as the world's best central banker by a U.S. magazine. But he was also attacked by politicians for prolonging the

"His major accomplishment was bursting Japan's asset bubble," said James Vestal, economist at Barclays de Zoete Wedd Securities in Ja-

He added that there was "just reason" for the criticism that the Bank of Japan under Mr. Mieno did not ease interest rates quickly enough during the recession, but he said the bank might have wanted to force Japan to confront "the pain ahead" and not delay necessary structural

Few would deny Mr. against asset inflation won

praise, the subsequent sharp Mieno kudos for his dedication to bringing Japan's lateslowdown in the real economy brought charges that he 1980s economy of sky-high was too cautious in easing land and stock prices back to credit and was thus unnecesreality, a struggle some say sarily prolonging the pain. In early 1993, a ruling parwas aimed at preventing soci-ety from splitting into haves

d disgruntled have-nots. ty baron called for a discount rate cut even if it meant firing When Mr. Mieno assumed his post in December 1989. Mr. Mieno. A year later. the Tokyo stock market's Nikkei 225-share average was some politicians were again muttering that he should go. By September 1993, howjust shy of its record ever, the central bank had

brought its discount rate to a record low of 1.75 percent. Mr. Mieno recently came under fire from business leaders who said be had exaggerated the strength of Japan's fragile recovery from a three-year recession, failed to halt relentless appreciation of the yen and tolerated rises in

market interest rates. But economists agree that the Bank of Japan under Mr. Mieno has been on target with calls for greater deregulation of Japan's financial markets and more competition among financial institu-

Many economists say the artificial wealth of the bubble era hid structural problems in Japan's economy and reduced pressure for the vital reforms outlined by Mr. Mieno's predecessor.

Mr. Mieno will be succeeded by Yasuo Matsushita, a former vice finance minister and an adviser at Sakura Bank Ltd.

Economists say Mr. Matsushita's hands-on experience in private banking may help him cope with the problem of banks' huge problem loans, but they expect no sudden

China 'A' Shares Soar: Less Is More

SHANGHAI - China 'A' shares, which are reserved for domestic buyers, surged Thurscerns about a share glut, traders analyst at Credit Lyonnais.

Shanghai 'B' shares, meanforeign buyers, fell to their lowest level in more than a year as investors appeared to turn to Hong Kong as the best way to invest in China.

Crédit Lyonnais Securities an Aine jumped 239.80 points, or 7.01 45 points, to 689.56.

nies on a more sophisticated, foreign groups now to pursue fund management group, but this business," said Cory Hong, sis.

fund management group, but has not yet settled on a partner.

"The fund industry in China"

Shanghai Securities is aiming

heir share registries. to set up a \$100 million fund in year, we will see approval grant-Local securities houses, keen tandem with a major foreigned for the joint venture funds."

The market in A shares

surged "on unconfirmed news day amid speculation that the that the total A share issue quogovernment has decided to tain 1995 will be reduced from slash the number of new share 5.5 billion yuan to 2 billion offerings next year to ease con- yuan," said Ann Shih, a China A flood of new share offer-

ings was blamed for a 70 perwhile, which are reserved for cent slump in China share prices earlier this year that prompted issuers to announce market-lifting measures, including a postponement of new share sales until 1995.

The official newspaper China that China's administrators of percent, to 3,660.97 points, and state assets has issued a circular the stock exchange index added announcing tighter controls of points, to 689.56. rights issues. The circular said all rights issues would require B Index fell 1.6 percent, to administration approval and

is at an early stage, there are not

a lot of regulations," said Mr. Hong. "I think after we get new

regulations from the PBOC for

the domestic market, then next

674.04. The stock exchange B that it would only be given if the index fell 0.98 points to 59.99. that it would only be given if the company really needed capital. company really needed capital. Speculation that China's cen-

tral bank is poised to publish regulations on supervising investment funds also boosted share prices, said Joyce Leung, a trader at Sun Hung Kai Secu-

Regarding the weakness in B shares on Thursday, traders said that economic and political concerns about China continued to dog the market, fed by recent media reports.

Hong Kong Lets STAR **Broadcast** In Cantonese

HONG KONG - Hong Kong on Thursday gave STAR TV, the pan-Asian broadcaster owned by News Corp., permission to transmit in the dialect used in southern China.

The government also paved the way for TVB, a local station, to become a regional broadcasting power.
The broadcasting changes

announced by the government give the Hong Kong-based rivals equal access to the region's increasingly wealthy television audience and the same footing on home turf.

Previously, STAR had been prevented from broadcasting in the Cantonese dialect, which is spoken in Hong Kong, southern China and pockets of Asia. This was to protect Hong Kong's lo-cal TV stations: TVB and ATV. TVB had previously been re-

stricted to broadcasting locally and in Taiwan.
Government officials said the changes reflect the government's drive to create a regional

broadcasting hub. They have probably accelerated the process of deregulation because Singapore is also keen to attract the investment," said Charles Whitworth, a media an-

alyst at James Capel Asia Ltd. TVB, was granted, in principle, a second license it needed

to transmit a regional service rivaling that of STAR. Its Galaxy Uplink Ltd. unit, which will carry drama, sports and general entertainment channels, was granted a 12-year license to establish facilities in Hong Kong to transmit and receive signals.

James So, Hong Kong's secretary for recreation and cul-ture, said Galaxy would widen the choice of programs in the region, bring in overseas broadcasting expertise and create new local jobs.

all agreements that extend into the colony's transfer in 1997, will be consulted about the license, Mr. So said. Both STAR TV and TVB still have to wait until 1996 to begin pay television operations in Hong Kong.

China, which must approve

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Very briefly:

Hongkong & Shanghai Banking Corp. economists forecast that stronger foreign trade would help Hong Kong's economy grow by 5.8 percent in real terms in 1995, compared with this year's 5.6 percent; the bank pegged 1995 inflation at 8.5 percent.

Mitsubishi Bank Ltd. said consolidated pretax profit fell by 48 percent, to 36.2 billion yen (\$360 million), in the first half to September from the year-ago period. The bank cut its profit forecast for the full year to 65 billion yen from 75 billion yen.

• Pohang Iron & Steel Co., South Korea's biggest steelmaker, said it would sell three subsidiaries in 1995: Posco Chem Co., Jungwoo Coal & Chemical Co. and Keoyang Shipping Co.

• Sanyo Electric Co. said it would increase capital spending in its next financial year by about 50 percent, to 58 billion yen. The company plans to step up production of flash memory chips.

• Fuji Photo Film Co. said sales fell 2 percent, to 1.07 billion yen, for its latest financial year; consolidated pretax profit dropped to 134.8 billion yen from 135.5 billion yen.

 Bayer AG got approval from the Taiwan government to invest about \$340 million to form Bayer Far East Polyurethane Co. AFP AFX, Knight-Ridder, Bloomberg

China Rejects U.S. Copyright Threat

BELIING - The Chinese government hit back Thursday at U.S. threats to impose sanctions if Sino-U.S. talks on intellectual

copyright protection collapse. A Foreign Ministry spokesman said such threats were "unjustified" and "unacceptable." A new series of talks on copyrights ended in Beijing on

Wednesday. The U.S. Embassy would not comment on the China has been pressing to be readmitted to the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade before the end of the year. But progress in this sector is among the conditions for such a move.

Japan Raises Growth Forecast and Backs Tax Reform

TOKYO — Japan's Economic Planning Agency on Thursday forecast 2.8 percent growth in gross domestic product for the new fiscal year starting in April and downgraded its forecast for the current year to 1.7 percent.

The forecasts were endorsed by Prime Minister Tomiichi Murayama as the governing coalition parties adopted a tax reform platform for the new year, calling for cuts in land-related taxes and the abolition of some corporate taxes.

The agency had initially forecast 2.4 percent growth for the current year. The revised GDP projection, which was

widely expected, mainly reflects a contri-bution from domestic demand that was smaller than expected, officials said.

Japan's current account surplus was forecast to fall to 11.9 trillion yen (\$119 billion) in the coming year, down from this year's initial estimate of 13.8 trillion yen and a revised forecast of 12.7 trillion

As a result, the agency said that the surplus — measuring trade in both goods and services — would fall to 2.4 percent of GDP, down from 2.8 percent under the original forecast and 2.7 percent un-

der the revised estimate.

The agency also forecast that wholesale

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prices would climb 0.5 percent in the coming year, up from its initial estimate of 0.2 percent and compared with a revised projection for a decline of 1.5 percent.

Consumer prices are expected to rise 0.9 percent, down from the initial forecast of 1.5 percent but up from the revised estimate of 0.6 percent. Mr. Murayama endorsed the agency's

latest economic forecasts before their formal adoption by the cabinet Monday.

The tax reform outline adopted on Thursday by the coalition partners is to be finalized by Jan. 10 when the government is to start drafting legislation.

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Buyout Boss Aims to Refill Coffers

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By Diana B. Henriques New York Times Service

NEW YORK - It will be difficult for Forstmann Little & Co. to top 1994. By Christmas, Forstmann Little, the leveraged-buyout concern, will have spent \$2.1 billion to complete the purchase of the Ziff-Davis Publishing Co.'s stable of computer magazines and the Thompson-Minwax line of paint and wood-care products. Earlier this year, it cashed in on two previous buyouts, gen-

erating bundles of profits for investors. Adding fame to fortune, Theodore Forstmann, a founding partner, recently was linked romantically to the Princess of Wales — inaccurately, he says — a rumor that put his face on the cover of at least one supermarket tabloid.

But after all the gold and glitter of this remarkable year, the 16-year-old buyout concern is expected to return to an essential, if more prosaic, task: raising money. With his war chest nearly empty, Mr. Forstmann will try to find roughly \$2.5 billion in fresh capital in January, according to investors familiar with the company's plans. To succeed, he will have to convince Wall Street he is still hungry enough — at age 54 and with a fortune estimated at \$250 million to \$500 million

- to continue fighting for the best deals. Mr. Forstmann, in a four-hour interview at his Manhattan office, dodged the question of whether and when he would approach investors. But he acknowledged that his firm, with just \$300 million left after the \$1.4 billion Ziff-Davis transaction closes next Wednesday, would be unable to do deals of similar size unless it raised new capital.

When the books are closed on the 18 deals in Forstmann Little's current portfolio, limited partners will have gotten at least \$4.9 billion from an investment of

\$1 billion between 1980 and 1992. The successes include Dr Pepper Co., now Dr Pepper/Seven-Up Cos., and Topps Co., the maker of bubble gum and trading cards, both in 1984, and the 1990 deal to buy General Instrument Corp., a

maker of cable television equipment. Those profits are certain even if all four of Mr. Forstmann's uncompleted deals are written off as total losses, which

After a glittering year, Forstmann Little must return to a prosaic but crucial job: raising money.

he said was highly unlikely. More realistically, if the firm can eke out at least a modest return on its last troubled investments, investors could recover as much as \$6 billion on their \$1 billion outlay, according to Wall Street estimates. But many Forstmann watchers never-

theless wonder whether the big pension funds will agree to grant the firm the same fees and profits as its earlier investors. "I'm not interested in haggling over terms," Mr. Forstmann said. "I've never

changed a comma of these agreements over the years. If some guy wants to change them, his remedy is to invest with somebody else."

Speaking quietly but firmly, he added:
"I know the kind of relationship I wanted to have with my investors, and I have done everything I can to keep my promises to them. If that's not good enough, then fine. I don't need it. But I'll tell you

finish. I think it would be virtually fraudulent for me to go raise money and not plan to be here for its investment."

That is the essence of Mr. Forstmann: intense, proud, competitive and, yes, a bit sanctimonious. That essenence is likely to make his new money-raising exercise fascinating to Wall Street.

It has been nearly a decade since he delivered his first sermons to Wall Street. Warning of the evils of using junk bonds, he argued that the only virtuous way to finance buyouts was the way he did them. His firm often put up as much as twothirds of the purchase price, with the cash coming from its equity fund, augmented by money borrowed on easy terms from the firm's debt-investment fund.

Sure enough, when the junk-bond market faltered in the 1990s, a host of buyouts arranged by rivals limped into bankruptcy court. But only one Forstmann deal has failed: Pullman Co., the only deal that had junk bonds outstanding before the buyout. Pullman filed a prepackaged reorganization plan last month.

"Pullman is a company we shouldn't have bought," Mr. Forstmann acknowledged. "We got a good price, but price is about fourth on my list of priorities -a very distant fourth. It had no significant core business, no dominant market share, no serious growth potential and it

was too hooked to the economy." Beyond Wall Street, Mr. Forstmann is committed to political and philanthropic concerns. It was his commitment to helping Bosnian refugees that helped generate those rumors about the Princess of Wales. He said he had talked with her about Bosnia at two dinner parties, and that romance was on neither menu.

Trafalgar Won't Tap Shareholders for Bid

Compiled by Our Staff From Disputches LONDON - Trafalgar House PLC, the conglomerate that was rejuvenated by the Jardine Matheson group, said Thursday it returned to profitability in its latest financial year and would not need to sell stock

Trafalgar said it posted a profit before tax of £45.6 milion (\$71.23 million) in the year ended on Sept. 30 after it suf-fered a loss of £347 million the

for a potential takeover.

Swiss Bank Corp., Trafalgar's financial adviser, revealed Wednesday that the conglomerate was thinking of making a takeover bid for Northern Elec-tric PLC, the British utility. On cant presence in Britain in case Thursday, Trafalgar said, "In it had to leave Hong Kong bethe event of such a bid, the cause of its troubles with China. transaction would be financed

without a rights issue." The company tapped its ill-fated acquisition of Davy the Cunard shipping line. Corp. That takeover brought with it a problem with a North Sea oil rig contract.

That and other financial woes led to Trafalgar coming under the control of HongKong Land Holdings Co., part of the Jardine group. Analysts have said Jardine was investing in

With its 1993 rights issue, supported by HongKong Land, Trafalgar sought to restore its shareholders through rights is-sues in 1991 and 1993, the first diverse businesses, including of which was used to finance its the Ritz hotel in London and

"It's fair to say there are signs of recovery in some areas," said one analyst, forecasting that profit in the current financial year would rise to £75 million. But Trafalgar said its markets remained competitive and it warned profit in its metal-

working division might fall.

"During the past year eco-nomic growth in the developed world has exceeded expectations, yet confidence has remained fragile," the company said. "Spending on fixed investment a major source of work for our construction and engineering businesses, has been patchy."

The company said it sold £38.6 million worth of businesses and assets during the year. Sales fell 2.5 percent, to £3.76 billion, while the company cut its dividend to a penny this year from 3.25 pence a year ago. Net borrowing at the end of the financial year stood at £20.4 million, down from £273.9 million a

(Reuters, AFP)

year earlier.

Saturday

Art expert Souren Melikian covers both art and auctions throughout the world in this well-read weekly column. From major exhibitions to small galleries, from impressionism to ancient pottery, this feature brings new insight for the viewer and the collector in the popular and often lucrative art

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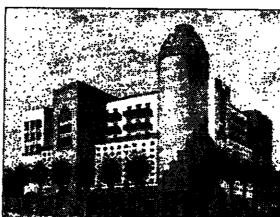
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A PACKAGE THAT ATTRACTS INVESTORS

Emphasis of new drive for industrial and manufacturing development is on the private sector.

Millions of dollars are smelter and further facilities world. The island is also being invested in Bahrain as it prepares for a decade of industrial and manufacturing development that will carry it into the next century as the business and communications gateway to the Middle East.

Total investment is estimated at more than \$1.6 billion. This will go toward a new port, expansion of petrochemical industries and a refinery, power genera-tion, a coke calcining plant for the island's aluminum

at the international airport. There are also plans to develop more tourism. More than \$1 billion is go-

ing into the iron and steel sector, where six or seven major projects are likely to go ahead shortly. Sager Sha-heen, director of industrial development at the Ministry of Development and Industry, says that one of these projects, a factory to produce steel and seamless tubes from iron pellets produced by Gulf Industrial Investment Co.'s pelletizing plant, will employ 1,000 persons. Another 2,000 jobs will be created by the other steel projects.

Mr. Shaheen says the government invested heavily in infrastructure projects during the late 1970s and the early 1980s. "Now the emphasis is on persuading the private sector to play a bigger role by starting more smaller and medium-sized businesses," says Mr. Sha-

Modern communications Bahrain island, now linked to Saudi Arabia by a 26kilometer causeway, became the leading offshore banking center during the heady oil boom days of the late 1970s. This happened partly because of its proximity to Saudi Arabia, but also because its state-of-the-art telecommunications enabled bankers to have instant contact with their counterparts around the

conveniently located between two time zones - Europe to the west and Japan to

At the end of 1993, total assets of the 47 offshore banking units reached over \$60 billion. By the end of last June they had climbed to \$63.4 billion. In addition to the overseas banking units, there are 19 full commercial banks, two special-ized banks, 22 investment banks and 38 representative

Bahrain has never been one of the oil-rich emirates, but oil and gas do account for 64 percent of government revenues, and oil and related products make up 80 percent of all exports. Because of the weak oil market, this is expected to fall next year to 283 million Bahraini dinars (\$750.7 million), which is 54 percent of the 520 million Bahraini dinars expected next year.

Aluminum smelter The Bahrain Petroleum Co.

refinery and the aluminum smelter (ALBA) are the two most important revenueearning installations on the island. The refinery, originally established in 1932 and owned by Bahrain National Oil Company (60 per-cent) and U.S. Caltex (40 percent), has been the subject of a much-delayed \$800 million expansion and upgrade, which was to have been carried out in several

Last June, it was decided to go ahead with a scaled-down modernization plan. which would probably cost only half the scheduled investment. The financing of this has still not been finalized. During 1993, the refinery was processing 247.302 this, 216,000 barrels a day were from Saudi Arabia, imported via a pipeline from the Eastern Province.

Relatively low energy costs (Bahrain produces 948 million cubic feet of gas a day - all for domestic use. except for some small ex-ports of liquefied gas and gas-derived petrochemicals) have enabled Bahrain to develop one of the most ad-vanced aluminum smelters in the Middle East. Follow-ing a recent S1.5 billion dollar expansion, the smelter's production has been doubled to 460,000 tons.

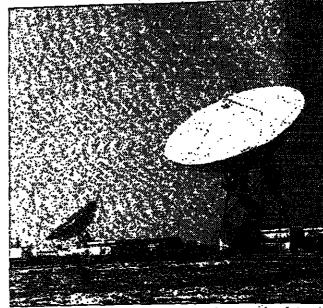
The smelter has spawned a host of local downstream industries, and the government expects a number of new projects to start soon. Existing companies manufacture a variety of products. including electrical cables and automotive wheels.

Incentives offered

In the last two years, the government has created a package of investment incentives to attract more for-eign joint ventures and direct investment. Compared to some other Gulf states. Bahrain has an unusually liberal attitude toward new investors. It provides a "fast track" registration service for new companies and will allow 100 percent foreign ownership in most industrial and distribution projects. It has set up a special marketing and promotions office to help coordinate efforts between foreign and local in-

"We are getting about 30 inquiries a month," says Mr.

Habib Ahmed Kassim. minister of commerce and agriculture, who is also chairman of the Bahrain Marketing and Promotions Office, says: "Bahrain has always been an attractive venue for business - it is cosmopolitan, centrally loparrels a day of crude; of cated and easily accessible. Its service sector is mature, and the incentives package for new investors is unique in the Arabian Gulf."



Communicating with the world: part of Bahrain's earth station for

RINGING THE GLOBE

A digital system is planned for mobile phones.

Bahrain's telecommunications network "is among the most advanced and leads the way for other countries in the Middle East," according to Stephen Rotheram, technical director of Cable & Wireless's Regional Business, who was speaking at a recent technical forum in Bahrain.

Bahrain Telecommunications Co. has always been at the forefront of developments in the industry. Its services have also been instrumental in helping to develop the island's economy through the growth of the banking and financial sector. Bahrain has become a vital regional transit point for all business telecommunications because of quality services and competitive rates, in addition to the advantage of the island's location.

A remarkable fact: In 1993, Bahrainis spent 136 million minutes on international telephone calls

Earlier this year, the company announced it was introducing a global system for mobile telephones. Sweden's Ericsson Radio System Ab is supplying a network that will have an initial capacity of 15,000 lines. The service should start next January and will enable subscribers to use the system from anywhere in the Gulf Cooperation Council area - Kuwait. Saudi Arabia, the UAE, Oman and Qatar."

As operational facilities spread to more and more countries, the system is gradually becoming worldwide. Because it is "digital," it offers more privacy than the analogue sys-

Last month, a contract was signed for a \$1.7 million advanced computer-billing system for mobile telephone users. The British-based American group, Computer Sciences Corp., is to install the system.

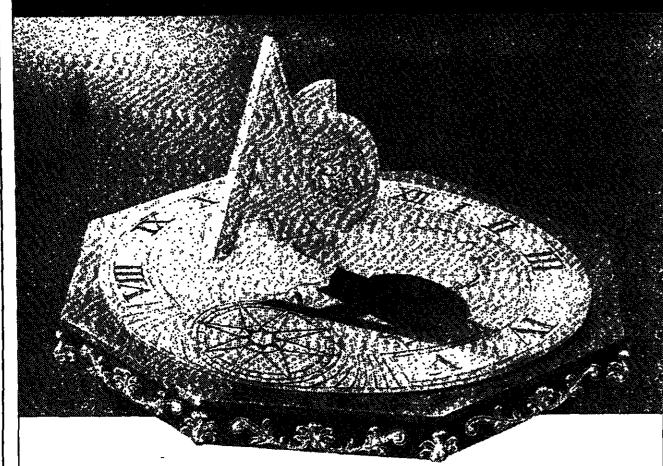
"It will initially serve the digital mobile network but will be extended to all current mobile users," says a Bahrain Telecommunications spokesman. At the end of last year, there were 20,000 mobile analogue lines.

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Bahrain shows its skills: (Above) the Bahrain International Exhibition Center, and (top) high-tech weld-

ing at the newly opened Shaw-Ness plant.

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ALUMINUM IS INDUSTRIAL DRIVING FORCE

One of the world's largest smelters supports more than a dozen companies, generating thousands of jobs.

bahrain's industrial backbone is Aluminium Bahrain (ALBA). Its smelter had a \$1.5 billion expansion two years ago that doubled its

making it one of the largest in the world.

Since ALBA was started

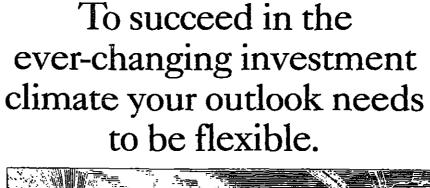
production capacity to 23 years ago, it has generat-460,000 metric tons a year, ed a dozen or more downstream industries that have produced revenue from domestic and export sales, and

thousands of jobs for "Our production costs are

among the lowest in the world, which means our cost per ton compares favorably with the best smelters in the West, says Gudvin Tofte, ALBA's general manager. There are at least five major companies employing a total of 1,400 mostly Bahraini workers who manufacture a range of value-added prod-ucts, including alloy wheels for BMW cars and electricity transmission cables. As a local source of primary aluminum in its various forms, ALBA remains the driving force for developing this non-oil sector of the economy." adds Mr. Tofte.

Takeoff point
About 127,000 tons of the metal is used locally. Sager Shaheen, director of industrial development at the Ministry of Development and Industry, says that the availability of aluminum for fabrication as well as semimanufactures is beginning to take off. "We have a joint venture between a Bahraini and German company, Aluwheel, which is making 500,000 auto wheels a year. The Bahrain Industrial Investment Co. is making nonstick kitchen utensils and various auto spares. And another company is making rivets.

Other joint venture companies are making such items as bottle-top closures, waterproof membranes, corrugated cardboard, plastic cups and containers. A recent investment between a Saudi group, Olayan, and Kimberly-Clarke is for a \$60 million tissue plant that is now coming into full pro-





(Which is why you should choose Al-Ahli's Investment Scheme).

Al-Ahli announces its Investment Scheme which offers you the opportunity to invest worldwide in its Global Equity Fund and the Global Bond

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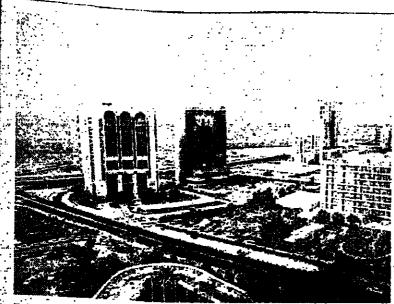
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حكذا من الاحل





Baltrain on the move: The financial center of the island, with the Gull international Bank (lett); and the refurbished airport duty free shopping area.

حيكذا من الاحل

AIRPORT AIMS AT 10 MILLION PASSENGERS

Growth of transit traffic confirms Bahrain's role as a hub for the Middle East and the Asian subcontinent.

An accident of geography and a farsighted decision to modernize the old airport after the Bahraini Emirate became independent 23 years ago has paid off handsomely for the development of the island's economy.

Today, after a recently completed \$100 million development program, the international airport has one of the most modern and efficient terminals in the Middle

A terminal was built adjacent to the existing one so as to cause minimum disruption during construction. The two have now been

Since the start of the year

in the consolidated assets of

the commercial banks in

billion dinars in January, ac-

cording to the Bahrain Mon-

etary Agency. The growth reflects the increased activi-

ty of the 21 commercial and The commercial banks

have been adopting a more aggressive policy in chasing new customers by offering a

greater choice of savings and investment plans. At the beginning of December, Al-Ahli Commercial Bank,

which is wholly owned by Bahrainis, launched a new investment scheme in con-

junction with Gartmore Fund Internal Ltd. of

Michael Fuller, chief executive officer of Al-Ahli, said at the launch: "We feel local

investors are ready for an investment scheme that offers the opportunity to gain rewards from worldwide bond and equity markets with the convenience of dealing with

Tim Jackson, of Gartmore, said that local investors with a minimum of \$10,000 would now have access to Gartmore's Capital Strategy Fund, one of the world's first multiassetbased umbrella funds. Last year, Al-Ahli suc-cessfully opened a \$20 million Guaranteed Fund in conjunction with E.D. & F. Man, of the United States, which was fully subscribed within the launch period. Al-Ahli's preliminary half-yearly figures have shown a rise in net profit from 1.5 million Bahraini dinars to 2 million dinars. Net profit for 1993 was 9.6 million dinars, compared with

Global rewards

trusted banks."

Western links

"BAHRAIN" was produced in its entirety

by the Advertising Department of

the International Herald Tribune.

WRITER: Michael Frenchmun, a London-based specialist in

Middle East offairs. PROGRAM DIRECTOR:

there has been a steady rise Khalid, who was managing

Bahrain. This stood at 3.9 of ABC since 1992. He rep-billion Bahraini dinars resents a group of new Gulf (\$10.3 billion) at the end of shareholders who subscribed

last June, compared with 3.1 a \$250-million capital in-

Last summer, a transit hotel opened in the airport.

Bahrain now has the capability to handle peak-hour passenger traffic (usually late at night), which has risen from 400 persons an hour to more than 2,000. By the end of the millennium, the combined terminals will be able to handle 10 million passengers a year, which airport planners believe will be sufficient to meet anticipat-ed traffic levels.

More airlines

There has been a steady growth in transit passengers, who numbered 1.2 million joined together, with inwho numbered 1.2 million 70 destinations. Last year, sion ple
creased facilities for both last year out of a total of just there were 51,529 aircraft pacity.

been a main board director

crease, bringing ABC's total

The changes were brought about to appease the U.S.

to \$1 billion in 1990.

BANKS OFFER CUSTOMERS NEW DEALS

in the Arab world. Sheikh Treasury over what it saw as

director of Riyad Bank, has of the nationality of the out-

New sorts of umbrella funds are part of increased activity - and profits - of commercial banks.

passenger and freight traffic. over 3 million. This has confirmed Bahrain's role as the leading hub for the Middle East and the Asian sub-continent. "The extensive portfolio of regional services and destinations and Bahrain's proximity to key markets and population centers combine to make Bahrain an airport of choice to an increasing number of airlines," says Ibrahim Abdulla Al-Hamner, assistant undersecretary for civil aviation. In the last three years, more than 20 airlines have started operating in Bahrain, bringing the total to over 37 scheduled airlines flying to

Libyan connections because

going chairman of ABC In-

Abdulmagid A.Breish.

general manager, says

Sheikh Khalid's appoint-

ment reaffirms the bank's

include closer links with the

He adds: "Our objectives

international position.

ternational Bank.

movements. Twelve Middle East Airlines, including the Bahrain-based Gulf Air. serve about two dozen regional destinations.

A second expansion phase costing \$18 million is getting under way. This will improve cargo handling facilities as Bahrain sets out to become a major freight hub for the Gulf. By 1996, the airport expects to handle 100,000 tons of cargo a year more than double its 1989 total. Bahrain Airport Services can currently handle 60,000 tons of freight a year, of which 36,000 tons is for transshipment. The expansion plan will double its ca-

ABC group's natural client

base in Saudi Arabia and the

important role in the devel-

opment of Arab economies

by acting as a financing

bridge between its European

client base and Arab govern-

ments planning infrastruc-

ture projects or the privatiza-

tion of certain sectors.

ABCIB hopes to play an

Arab World generally."

HELP FOR INVESTORS

A welcome mat for new investors is being rolled out by the Bahrain Marketing and Promotions Office. After a campaign last year targeting the United States, Europe, Southwest Asia-and the Pacific Rim, it received more than 4,600 inquiries. In the last one and a half years, more than 136 foreign companies have chosen Bahrain as their Middle

East corporate base. "Our strategic location, with easy access to nearly 100 million resourceful and economically strong consumers in a virtually recession-free market, is one of the most-often-cited reasons why companies have moved to Bahrain," says Habib Ahmed Kassim, minister of commerce and agriculture and chairman of the Bahrain Marketing and Promotions

Foreign successes Among the foreign companies that have come to Behrain are AT&T, Morrison in-

temational, Digital Equipment, Kimber-ley-Clarke, Silicon Graphics and DHL. "We have a very balanced package of incentives," says Sager Shaheen, indus-trial development director of the Ministry of Development and Industry. We try to help people right away. We can grant a license within a maximum of one week. and we will help companies all the way from construction to production. We are like a family doctor to them."

Among the incentives for foreign com-

 No personal or corporation tax. No exchange controls.

ital, profits or districted.

• Low-confirmel, power, water and telecommunications.

• 50 percent rebate on power costs for.

. No restrictions on repaination of cap-

No duty on raw materials, send man-ufactures or development projects.

Serviced factory and warehouse.

Soft loans available.
 100 percent foreign ownership possi-

- 100 percent rebate on land rentals • Up to 4,500 Behraini offrer (\$11,936)

subsidy per Bahraini employee.

• Plenty of sidiled labor available.

Extensive tree zone facilities

Mature commercial infrastructure
 Quality litestyle for expandities.
 Asked what kind of new industries and

investments Bahrain is looking for, Mr. Shaheen says: "We are really tooking across the board for new investments." in almost every sector. But we want to concentrate on the ones in which we can be competitive." .

New projects He gives as examples aluminum downstream and secondary industries, health care services, pharmaceolicals, all kinds of load processing, petrocherolcals and plastics, consumer products, engineer-

ing, information technology, distribution and tourism. "New industrial projects are continu-ously under raview," say Mr. Kassim.

DUTY FREE BECOMES TROUBLE-FREE

In a modernized complex, air passengers can choose from 35,000 items on display.

1 ransit passengers visiting the newly tors at one end and the refurbished reopened duty free complex at the Bahrain international airport are in for a pleasant surprise. As part of the airport modernization, the duty-free complex has been remodeled and extended, making it one of the most stylish out-

Passengers can choose among 35,000 items on show at counters and in display units along the central walkway through the complex. "We are encouraging passengers to 'walk the says John Sutcliffe, general shop, manager, who has revolutionized dutyfree shopping at the airport since his arrival from Moscow more than two

lets of its kind in the Middle East.

The duty-free area on the mezzanine floor is long and narrow, with escala-

restaurant at the other. The basic design is open-plan, and the layout exposes passengers to a range of products beverages, tobacco, perfumes, gold and electronics – as they pass along the walkway.

Stock of CDs

New products include toys, fashion, sporting goods, luggage and leather goods, crystal and china. At the music center, which stocks over 5,000 CDs, customers can listen to the CDs or tapes before purchasing. The disco-like lighting gives it atmosphere and makes it a unique facility in the Gulf. The decor in other parts of the complex has been changed to create a restful environment for shoppers.

Last year, customers spent more than \$28 million, and Mr. Sutcliffe expects sales to pass the \$35 million mark by the end of this year.

A new arrivals shop was also built this year. 'It was officially opened last September and now accounts for 9 percent of all our sales," says Mr. Sut-

One innovation is a preorder system for both departing and arriving passengers. Customers can telephone and pay for orders in advance. This enables us to offer a wide range of bulky products, such as suitcases and sports goods. which can be collected either on departure or arrival," says Mr Sutcliffe. "It saves carrying the goods on board, and when collected on arrival, they can be carried straight to the car or taxi.

If you're thinking of investing in Bahrain we've got some extraordinary

business connections



5.4 million dinars in 1992. If you're looking to set up business in Major changes have been the Middle East's premier investment taking place at the Arab location you couldn't ask for a better Banking Corp. Last month, business ally than BATELCO. Our Sheikh Khalid Ali Alturki telecommunications system is one of was confirmed as chairman of ABC International Bank, the most advanced in the world and which is now registered as a has always played a vital role in bank in London. This folestablishing Bahrain as the hub of lows the resignation of Abtrade and commercial activities in the dulla Ammar Saudi, who had helped to build ABC region. BATELCO's fully digitized into one of the largest banks network provides direct dial links around the globe. We play host to a range of modern

telecommunication systems and services at prices that will please the most cost-conscious manager. In fact, BATELCO can offer you the best value packaged rates in the whole of the Middle East, as well as individually tallored ones to meet your company's particular requirements. To find out what BATELCO can do for

your business, contact: International Sales, BATELCO, P.O. Box 14, Manama, Bahrain. Tel: (+973) 885151, Fax: (+973) 536999.

Bahrain Duty Free. Another festive wonder.





Highly commended at this year's Tax Free World Awards in Cannes and the recipient of the 1994 Gulf-Africa Merit of Distinction Award for the most distinctive retailer in the Middle East, what else can we say about the newly expanded Bahrain Duty Free. Except that you can choose from over 35,000 top

quality items, all at amongst the lowest prices in the world with the friendliest of service. And that's not to mention our Arrivals Shop, pre-order service, car draw or our new shopping voucher scheme,

Don't miss out. Visit the wonder called Bahrain Duty Free.

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SPORTS

Go-Karting: A Serious Sport for Serious Drivers, Including Formula One's

By Brad Spurgeon International Herald Tribune

PARIS - Go-karting may be a pastime for kids on summer drivers, including the 1994 holidays, but many of the rookie of the year, Jacques world's best automobile racers, including a lew in retirement, father Gilles, raced against think it's a serious sport for Prost in Formula One nearly a

The second annual Elf Master Karting Indoor, to be held nisports de Paris Bercy, will inboys and pit many of the who is 14 years Prost's junior. world's best drivers against one

another in karts. world champion Alain Prost, track against the 16- to 20-year-having come out of retirement old upstarts from the internato defend the title he won in tional karting world, such as the 1993, will be facing 74 other 1993 world champion David drivers from 15 countries.

Among the 25 drivers from Formula One will be Rubens
Barrichello and Christian Fitti"Jules" Boullion of France. paldi of Brazil, Johnny Herbert and David Coulthard of Brit- ously? ain, J.J. Lehto of Finland, David Brabham of Australia, Gianni Morbidelli and Pier-Luigi Martini of Italy, and Hideki Noda of Japan.

The oldest man on the grid will be France's Philippe Alliot, 40, who has raced in Formula One and the 24 Hours of Le Mans. Also from Le Mans are the two-time champion Yannick Dalmas and the 1993 victor Eric Helary, both of France.
There will be a few Indy car

There will be a few Indy car

There will be a few Indy car Villeneuve of Canada, whose of the younger drivers who generation ago.

While last year's high point was the Prost-Ayrton Senna this weekend in the Palais Om- dual, this year Prost will have to defend his title against Michael volve two days of racing that Schumacher, the reigning Forwill separate the men from the mula One world champion,

Billed as a battle of the gener-

ations, the weekend will put the Four-time Formula One more established drivers on the Terrien of France, and the 1994 International Formula 3000

> Do the old guys take it seri-Prost, 39, who was this week made an Officer of the Order of

> the British Empire, has been

Races to Be Televised and on Radio

The races will be televised live on Eurosport International for 2½ hours Saturday, starting at 1930 GMT, and for two hours on Sunday, starting at 1400 GMT. They will also be telecast on TF1, France Television and Paris Premiere, and broadcast on radio by R.T.L., France Inter and Europe 1.

kart races.

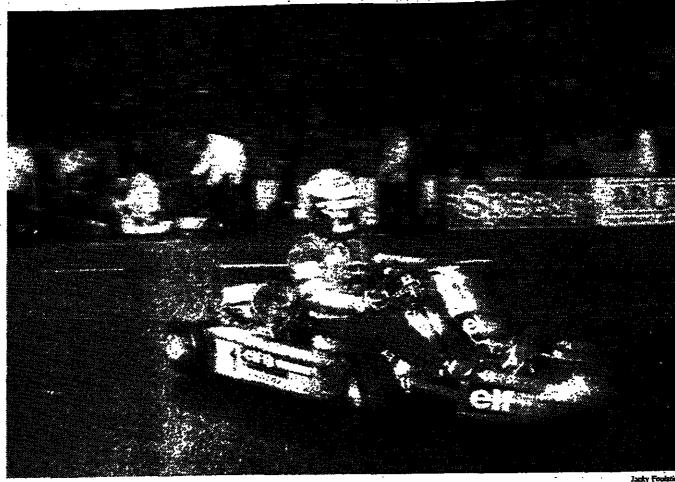
the sport.

600-meter track. Unlike For-"I want to be up to the level mula One cars, the karts are all equal, each having a 100cc mopractice karting regularly, like tor that can push it to speeds of about 130 kilometers per hour I would hate to go to this for (80 miles per hour).

One driver who must hav. Prost might be wary of Schudecided that Schumacher's admacher, but Schumacher has vantage would be too great, or his own generational worries. who didn't care to categorized His younger brother, Ralf, a driver in German Formula 3. as a boy or a man, is Damon has been invited to Bercy, too.

The runner-up for this year's Many drivers, including the controversial Formula One ti-Schumachers, have an advantle, he had been practicing for tage over the others: Their parmonths on a kart given to him by Philippe Streiff, the former Formula One driver who conents all operate public karting tracks and they grew up with ceived and organized the Bercy event. Streiff was paralyzed Karting is the recognized training ground for future from the waist down by an accichampions. In today's Formula dent during practice for the 1989 Brazilian Grand Prix, but One, the number of drivers who did not come up by way of

his passion for racing remained. Hill is one of the few Formukarting are in the minority. Senna had his own track, and 10 la One drivers who did not cut karts, at home on his estate in his teeth on karting, and he did not do well at Bercy last year. Brazil even while he was at the top of Formula One. Schu-Furthermore, practice had not made him perfect, so at the last minute Hill pulled out of this weekend's races. That removed one opponent from Schumacher's path toward proving that he is really the king of the racers. But Prost, or some upstart, may prove otherwise.



Alain Prost, with Aryton Senna in the pits in the background, winning last year's championship at the kart races in Paris.

Faldo Discounts Prospects For Planned World Golf Tour

MONTEGO BAY, Jamaica - The question didn't catch

of the World Golf Tour. Faldo, asked what he thought of the upstart tour that is trying to lure the top 30 players in the world for a \$25 million series

that would begin play in 1995, shrugged his shoulders and tartly replied: "What World Tour? It isn't going to happen." Faldo, the No. 3 player in the Sony World Rankings, said Wednesday that he received his first correspondence from the World Golf Tour on Monday there British Opens, two U.S.

when he arrived at the Tryall Resort for this week's Johnnie naments around the world. "It's playing one another more often. Walker World Championship. He said someone slid a contract under the door of his villa, and speak face-to-face to any of the That's going to be a little diffi-

"The organizers haven't spoken to me at all." Faldo said. "I think it would have made a big-ger impact if they had been able to turn around and say, 'We've got the support of 20 players,' but they never really spoke to anybody that I know of.

think it will happen. Not the way it's been proposed." Greg Norman, who is the

Sound, Florida, having de-Nick Faido by surprise, but his reply will certainly shake up a few people in the headquarters to this \$2.5 million year-end bo-

> of the other top players have mon ground somewhere." embraced the concept, only Norman has openly committed to it. The PGA Tour commissioner, Tim Finchem, has the practice range and held threatened to suspend any play- lobby at Tryall, trying to enlist er who chooses to play in a player support. But he won't get World Tour that conflicts with any from Faldo, who decided in the American tour.

top players have been waiting into his plans. for. The problem now is how it cult. Let's wait and see what

Price, who reached the No. 1 ranking by winning the British
Open, the U.S. PGA Championship and four U.S. PGA Tour
events, said he'd like to see it

If a desire to rectify that that will bring him to the United States to play full-time beginning next month.

tours trying to work together to travel less. and get something done here. I

point man for the World Golf didn't think someone would put Tour, is back home in Hobe \$25 million into an eight-tournament tour,

"If the money is out there, we've really got to try to accommodate it somehow without sacrificing the tour either way,"
While Nick Price and some he said. "There's got to be com-

> September to play full-time on the PGA Tour in 1995.

It isn't that Faldo, 37, has anything against the concept of Masters and more than 60 tour- the best players in the world one of the things most of the It is simply that it doesn't lit For the Record

To Faldo, the most impor-PGA Championship. It is part-

they never really spoke to happen. "I haven't got time to go rushing around the world next "At the moment, I don't price, Norman's close friend, year," Faldo said, "My whole ink it will happen. Not the "It's just a question of both idea for going to America was to work to the process of the

(NYT, AP, Reuters)

SIDELINES

10 AS Roma Supporters Arrested

ROME (AP) — Ten supporters of AS Roma, five of them members of a right-wing extremist group, were arrested Thursday in connection with Italy's most violent soccer riots this season.

Two police officers, including the deputy police chief, were seriously injured and another 15 policemen and fans were hurt during fights in and around the stadium in Brescia on Nov. 20. Eight persons were arrested earlier.

Maurizio Gaudino, a member of Germany's World Cup team. was arrested in Munich on suspicion of dealing in stolen goods. authorities said. Ulrich Dietz, the Mannheim prosecutor in charge of combating organized crime, said he could "neither deny nor confirm" that Gaudino was suspected of dealing in stolen cars. The 28-year-old midfielder and two other players were suspended last week by Eintracht Frankfurt following a dispute with the

club's coach, Jupp Heynckes.

FINA Suspends Head of Medical Unit

LOS ANGELES (LAT) — Alan Richardson, chairman of its medical commission, has been suspended by FINA for giving reporters information about the results of the drug tests involving

Gunnar Werner, FINA's secretary general, rebuked Richardson last month for confirming reports that world champion Yang Aihua had tested positive for the male hormone testosterone.

Two sialoms will be run at Lech am Arlberg, Austria, on Dec. 20 he added that he has yet to can adjust to the other tours. tant thing in golf has always and 21 and a giant slalom at Alta Badia, Italy, on Dec. 23 to make been major titles, and he lacks up for postponed races, FIS said. (Reuters) two essential entries on his re-

sume: the U.S. Open and the exile from British horse racing after the Jockey Club announced it was changing its drug testing procedures. (IHT)

Don Nelson, coach of the Golden State Warriors, was hospital-

ized with viral pneumonia; it was not known when he could return to the team. Diego Maradona, who last week quit as coach of Mandiyu with a 1-11 record, said he had agreed to become coach of the

Argentine team Racing Club. (Reuters) Bruce McNall, who as owner of the Kings lured Wayne Gretzky to Los Angeles, pleaded guilty in U.S. District Court to four criminal counts stemming from a federal bank fraud investiga-tion; July 6 was tentatively set as the sentencing date. (L47)

SCOREBOARD

NBA Standings EASTERN CONFERENCE

WEONESDAY'S RESULTS Cieveland 21 13 22 20 8 11—95
New Jersey 15 12 26 17 8 4—86
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(Anderson 12).
Top 25 College
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(Anderson 12).

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C: Hawkins 7-13 3-4 18, Bogues 8-17 2-2 18; D:
Hill 9-18 3-4 21, Addison 6-19 4-4 16, Rebeands—
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Altania

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Minnesoto 25 (Gariand 8).
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berry 6).

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Borkley 6-12 6-5 ZB, Person 9-15 1-2 24, Re-bounds—Secrite 44 (Kamp 14), Phoenix 42 (Green 12), Assists—Secrite 29 (Paylon 6), Phoenix 38 (Perry 13), L.A. Clippers 18 16 18 29—73 Decthored 29 28 38 32—121 Portional 38 28 34 37—121 L: Dehere 4-121-117. L.Murray 4-14 0-97: P: J.Robinson 8-12 0-8 21, C.Robinson 6-13 5-9 12. Rebomás—L.A. Citipers 37 (Vought 8), Portional 77 (Dudley 20), Assists—L.A. Citipers 17 (Richardson 7, Portional 27 (Knight 8),

Top 25 College Results

How top 25 teams in The Associated Press team's college basisafball poli fored Wednes-5. Massochusetts (4-1) beat Princeton 85-67.

Other Major College Scores

McNeese St. 51, Lannar 65-5W Texus St. 74, Phillips 64 FAR W2ST Montona 99, S. Oregon 75 Wyoming 101, Western St. Colo. 73

EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSE GUALIFYING
Wednesday's Results
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minute); Romania — Marius Localus (#7th).
Albenia & Georgie)

Albania & Geirgle |
Scarer: Choto Arvelado: (17th).
Motdeva & Germany 3.
Scorers: Uif Kirsten (4th), Jurgen Kilistman (38th), Lothar Mathaus (72d).
Platend & San Marina |
Scorers: Finland — Mike-Matti Poate-lainen (24th, 38th, 88th, 98th); San Marina —
Damenico Della Volte (24th).
Taring 1, Switzerfond 2.
Scorers: Turkey. — Recap Cella (48th);
Switzerland — Marcal Koller (7th), Thomas

The Best

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and -- Marcel Ketter (7fb), Thoma Media e. Morway ?

Scorer: Jan Auge Florind? (18th).

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Scorer: Youri Munder (6th), Bryon Ro /
(8th), Will John (18th), Rousid de Boer
(5ist), Clorence Seedorf (19th).

Wiles e. Belgarie 3

Scorer: Trition Ivanes (5th), Emit Kostodinov (15th), Hristo Stolichkov (5ist).

ITALIAN CUP

CRICKET

WORLD SERIES CUP ONE DAY MATCH Thursday, in Sydney Innines: 205 (all out, 49.3 evers) minus: 192 (all out, 49.1 evers) mbabwe wan by 13 runs. ELA TROPHY ONE DAY MATCH Sri Lenky vs. South Africa day, in Bioemfontein, South Africa

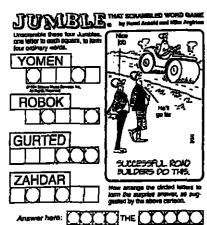
TRANSPIONS

ri Lanka innings: 226-8 (50 overs)

FOOTBALL National Feetball League BUFFALO—Signed Alex Van Pellyl

DENNIS THE MENACE



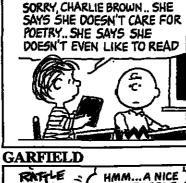


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PEANUTS



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CALVIN AND HOBBES







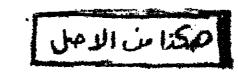




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Congress.

By Claire Smith New York Times Service

RYE BROOK, New York - The major league baseball owners have yet to suffer a setback at the bargaining table but, for the second time in less than a week, a government agency has sided with striking players as the four-month-old labor war escalated.

The latest government action came when the National Labor Relations Board informed the 28 clubs and the union Wednesday that, absent a settlement, it intended to issue a complaint against the owners.

Last Thursday, the Department of Labor certified the players' strike, enabling the union to request that the Department of Immigration and Naturalization deny visas to any non-citizen who would come into the United States to work as a replacement player.

The NLRB action, initiated by the agency's general counsel, Fred Feinstein, resulted from the agency's investigation into charges of unfair labor practices that were contained in a complaint filed by the Major League Baseball Players Association on Sept. 7.

The players filed the complaint after the owners decided not to make a \$7.8 million payment to the players' health and benefit fund. The contribution, expected Aug. 1, did not come even though the players had participated three weeks earlier in the All-Star Game, an event that traditionally generates funds for the pension plan.

According to Dan Silverman, the New York regional director of the NLRB, the complaint alleges violation of two different sections of labor law: first, whether the employer bargained improperly by failure to make payment; and second, whether the employer withheld the payment because employees were engaged in a strike. The players had announced their strike date of Aug. 12 before the owners' decision not to

make the fund contribution. Asked if the NLRB decision would

U.S. Agency
Backs Players

Baseball Owners Expected to Vote to Impose Salary Cap

We will be making a recom- tions, but included a con-



John Harrington of the Boston Red Sox, left, and Jerry McMorris of the Colorado Rockies, with the mediator William Usery between them, after talks with the players' negotiators were broken off in Rye Brook, New York.

general counsel for the owners' Player ing," said Lauren Rich, a lawyer with effort to conclude a new collective barat a collective bargaining agreement." Union officials, naturally, disagreed

"It's an accusation lodged by the United States government, by the agen-

Relations Committee, said: "I believe it the union who used to work for the perhaps, very serious damages. So Chuck can minimize it, but I wouldn't."

cy charged with policing our country's is marching into a larger conflagration, complaint. The owners can reach a setaffect collective bargaining, or what labor laws, that the clubs violated feder-said in a statement: "I recognize that the tlement with the play there is of it, Charles O'Connor, the al law during the course of this bargain-parties are engaged in negotiations in an hearing on the matter. labor laws, that the clubs violated feder- said in a statement: "I recognize that the tlement with the players, or opt for a

gaining agreement and bring an end to should have none. The central purpose NLRB. "If they have not been bargain- the strike. Their contractual dispute will of our negotiating committee is to arrive ing in good faith during this negotiation, not be settled by the National Labor the implementation will be illegal. And Relations Board, but must be settled by there will be consequences, including, the parties themselves. I encourage them to use every effort to do so."

The agency will give the owners a few Feinstein, recognizing that his agency days to decide how to respond to the By Mark Maske neton Post Service

RYE BROOK, New York -With major league baseball's labor talks broken down again, ary cap will require a "yes" vote sides discussed possible modifigame's doomsday scenario to owners. be played out: The team owners were to begin meeting at 2 P.M. jority owner, Peter Angelos, has Thursday in Chicago with plans to declare an impasse in negoti- against implementation of the ations and impose a salary cap.

month-old strike if a salary cap is put in place. Management representatives reiterated Wednesday that they plan to begin the 1995 season with teams of replacement players if the strike is continuing.

The two sides' attentions began turning from negotiation to litigation, with the National Labor Relations Board informing the 28 clubs and the union earlier Wednesday that, absent a settlement it intended to issue a complaint against the owners for what it said was improperly withholding a \$7.8 million payment to the players' pension fund in August.

After five days of discussions, the talks were broken off Wednesday evening when a series of suggestions made by the players were followed by management's declaration that a new proposal had been expected from the union but had not been received.

The union has refused to make any proposal on the critical issue of linking player costs to gross revenue, said John Harrington of the Boston Red Sox, who is chairman of the owners' six-member bargaining committee.

The committee flew to Chicaon Wednesday night, leaving little doubt its members would urge the rest of the owners to declare an impasse and impose

mendation along that line," Harrington said.

the way has been paved for the from 21 of the 28 major league cations to the owners' tax plan,

The Baltimore Orioles' matold associates that he will vote salary cap, but he almost cermeasure from passing

such a move as early as Friday, asking the National Labor Relations Board to seek an injunc-tion in federal court on grounds not any meeting I was a part that there is no impasse and that owners haven't bargained in good faith.

Referring in part to next tracts to players for the 1995 season, the Atlanta Braves' president, Stan Kasten, said. The calendar is what it is, and there's nothing we can do. We ness. We need to prepare for ment.

to sell advertising. We need players.

Said the union chief, Donald Fehr: "Try as we might, it becomes apparent that, at least for now, there's no agreement to be found. The things the players to implement would limit the were willing to do did not add players to receiving 50 percent up to enough, I guess, because they did not add up to a cap."

At the meetings here, the union presented a "partnership" proposal on Saturday that included a 5 percent flat tax on clubs' player payrolis. The owners responded with a counterproposal Sunday that incorporated many of the players' cooperative-venture suggestaxation system that union officials considered a dressed-up and the players came up with a series of suggestions Wednes-

According to Fehr, the owners had indicated in meetings that the salary arbitration sys-The players have vowed to tainly won't be able to enlist tem is unacceptable. So, Fehr continue what is now a four-enough support to keep the said, the union offered to eliminate arbitration in exchange for The union would challenge the players being given earlier unrestricted free agency.

But Kasten disputed that

William J. Usery, the former labor secretary enlisted by the White House to mediate the Tuesday, the deadline for major dispute, said he would not bow league teams to tender conimpose a salary cap.

"That is a decision for the ownership to do," Usery said. "Even if they implement they have to get on with our busi- still have to reach an agree-

The players went on strike "My goodness, it's Dec. 14. Aug. 12 to attempt to force the We need to sell tickets. We need owners to negotiate a new col-Aug. 12 to attempt to force the lective bargaining agreement before they could reach the point of imposing a salary cap, but neither side has budged

much on the issues. The system the owners plan of the industry's total revenues

The arbitration system that has existed since 1974 would be eliminated, and players would become restricted free agents after four seasons of major league service. As with the current system, players would become unrestricted free agents

TODAY'S

REAL ESTATE

MARKETPLACE

Appears

on Page 17

COLLEGES &

UNIVERSITIES

The Best Remedy Would Be a Repeal

with O'Connor's assessment.

By Dave Anderson

Vew York Times Service TEW YORK — The newest advice in baseball is the oldest advice in polinics: Write your senators and representa-

If you're interested in seeing major league baseball the way it ought be instead of picket lines and replacement players, then you the people should inform Con-

the time has Vantage come for it Point to repeal the antitrust ex-

•

emption that this sport, and this sport alone, has enjoyed for most of the century. Throughout the labor dispute that has evolved into the likelihood that the club owners will impose a salary cap Thursday, the union has indicated that, if the antitrust exemption is repealed, it would end the strike and litigate its problems. But only Congress can and baseball's

exemption from the antitrust laws. When the Supreme Court rejected Curt Flood's bid for free agency in 1972, Justice Harry Blackmun described the exemption granted in 1922 by the Supreme Court as

an "anomaly" and an "aberration." "If there is any inconsistency or illogic in all this," Blackman wrote in his opinion, "it is an inconsistency and illogic of long standing that is to be remedied by the Congress and not by this court."

If ever a remedy were needed, it is now. On behalf of Florida's sumptuous spring training economy, that state's two sena-tors, Connie Mack, a Republican, and Bob Graham, a Democrat, have asked Senator Orrin Hatch, Republican of Utah, for "speedy action on legislation applying the same laws of fair competition to baseball"

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that apply to pro football, pro basketball repeal with an end to the strike. Others and pro hockey.

have a comparable remedy enjoyed by other similarly situated athletes," Mack and Graham wrote in their letter to Hatch, who is expected to be chairman of the Senate Judiciary Committee when Congress reconvenes early next month.

But much more than Florida's economy is at stake now. Major league baseball as we know it is at stake. If the impasse continues into the season, if some players cross a picket line and others don't, if the proposed United League becomes a reality, major league baseball might never be the same again.
And if the United League materializes,

will it also inherit an antitrust exemption? If not, why not? How the new Congress will react is hard

to say. Some members surely will equate a

'Informal' Talks in NHL

WASHINGTON - National Hockey League management and players held an "informal" collective bargaining session Wednesday, a source familiar with the negotiations said. It was so informal that neither NHL Commissioner Gary Bettman nor NHL Players' Association Executive Director Bob Goodenow was there.

The source would not say what was discussed, where it was discussed or who discussed it. But, the source said, the same negotiators likely would meet again Thursday. Again, Goodenow and Bettman were not slated to attend, "but that could change," according to the source.

CROSSWORD

surely will not want to interfere in base-"It's not a level playing field, when own- ball's labor problems. Others will sneer, ers have a remedy and the players do not and rightly so, that Congress has many more important issues to consider than how baseball should be governed.

"Baseball's antitrust exemption should be done away with no matter what; baseball should be under the same laws as any other business," said Jim Bunning, a Republican from Kentucky who is Congress only right-hander with a career 224-184 record. "At least its labor negotiations should be non-exempt from antitrust law."

TIME IS A FACTOR. When the anti-T IME IS A FACTOR. When the anti-trust exemption was argued in Wash-ington during the early weeks of the strike. there wasn't enough time to do much. And with spring training scheduled to open in the final week of February and the season

to open on April 2, time is still short.

Baseball lobbyists have argued that a repeal would damage the minor leagues, that if a major league club's control over a player were to be limited to four years instead of six years, it would lose its incentive to subsidize the minors. It's an argument that would charm legislators from almost every state.

"Major league teams spend a total of \$130 million on their minor league operations," said Stanley Brand, the vice president of the minor leagues' governing body. "Without that investment, the economic forecast for the minor leagues would be dire. It would chiminate 120 teams in the Class A and Rookie leagues."

But decades ago there were dozens of Class B, C and D leagues. The minors have survived without them. And whatever the future of the minors, the future of the big leagues is what's at stake now. Write your senators and representatives.

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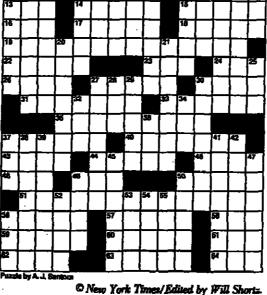
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39 "Road" star 41 Running for one's wife? 42 Sunrooms 45 is noncommittal 47 Uppose 49 Some U.S. agents ---- fell swoop

52 Designer
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New York Times/Edited by Will Shorts

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Let's Go Shopping

By Russell Baker TEW YORK - Don't de-I spair if your shopping list is infested with friends who care

about politics. Just check out the Newt & Bill catalogue. What Harry and David are to pear fanciers, what J. Peterman is to people who gorge on haberdashery satire, what Bean and Bauer are to people crazy for the great slushy outdoors - that's what Newt & Bill are to the

political types on your gift list. For instance, ladies, there's that certain somebody — right? - who goes all starry-eyed every time somebody says "spin doctor" or "Tippecanoe and Tyler too." Loves politics, obviously. But you don't know if he's Democrat or Republican.

Thanks to the bipartisan Newt-or-Bill wig, you don't have to know. It looks exactly like the hair Newt and Bill both wear. You don't have to know your guy's politics when you give him his own personalized Newt-or-Bill wig (\$295.99) made of the miracle compound created by Du Pont especially for Newt's and Bill's own pate covers. (State hat size when ordering.)

For Democratic friends who can't believe President Clinton is just another Republican moderate - and I have plenty of those — I recommend the new "Clinton Morpher." Here's how it will save suffering Democrats two years of misery: Remember the "morphing" technology that mean Republi-

can advertising sharpies used in the campaign to make good-guy Democratic congressmen turn into Bad Guy Clinton on your TV set? The "Clinton Morpher" uses the same principle. Attach it to your TV set and Abracadabra! — whenever

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three electronics engineers with recent MIT degrees to install it. Without this service: \$29.95.

For the kiddies, here's a real thrill from Political Toyland. A gennine styrene Capital Punishment Kit! Does anything delight the adult heart quite as much these days as the prospect of seeing more capital punishment? Hey, grown-ups, how about sharing with the kids? Put a little grisly in their lives -

give them this exciting toy. With miniature electric chair, gallows, gas chamber and in-jectable lethal drugs, children not only learn which methods cost fewer taxpayer dollars, but also get real practice by executing small insects found around the house. They'll have a head start toward what promises to become a booming business.

Speaking of crime and punishment, how about this for that fun couple who have everything. They've had the Hawaiian vacation. They've cruised all seven seas. Their feet killed them at the Parthenon and the Vatican. What to give them?

The Newt & Bill catalogue has the answer: a 13-prison tour! With everybody just dying to spend money to build more prisons, interest in these fascinating institutions has nev-er been higher. Yet how many of the Newt & Bill clientele know what they're really like?

Here's your chance to make a prison-loving couple happy this Christmas: a custom-designed 13-prison tour. Available tours range from DeLuxe (three weeks, \$14,000 a couple, two nights in solitary confinement at Leavenworth, an afternoon in an exercise vard for lifers, all meals in prison mess halls) to the El Cheapo (four days by bus, \$119 a person, outside-the-walls-only views of 13 prisons within a 50mile radius of bus station).

New York Times Service

Virtuoso: The Eclectic Dr. Billy Taylor

By Mike Zwerin
International Herald Tribuna

DARIS - Billy Taylor is a fine musician with a doctorate who shows up on time. To those who crank out funding for the arts, he represents the best of all possible worlds - reliable, respected by his peers, stamped "worthy" by the establishment. This has been both bane and blessing. His ability to swing came to be regarded as sort of peripheral.

Few jazzmen know how to function on economic, political and verbal levels with so much virtuosity. Dr. Taylor's CV is outrageously eclectic. Between those who play the power game period and all the creative souls struggling with day-to-day reality, music's worldly interests have been well defended by an Organization Man who was once the house pianist in Birdland.

The 72-year-old good doctor was in Paris earlier this month to interview the singer Dee Dee Bridgewater about her life here for the network television program "CBS Sunday Morning." He has been a musical journalist for this 90minute TV magazine for 14 years. He interviews, sometimes he plays. His report on Tony Bennett included a discussion about painting; Taylor thinks Bennett paints as well as he sings.

They had met more than 40 years ago between sets while working in neighboring Greenwich Village clubs. At the time, neither was important enough to have a dressing room. They ordered coffee or went to bars together. Bennett was on the same bill as Pearl Bailey at the Greenwich Village Inn, Taylor accompanying for Cole-man Hawkins at Café Society. Fabled downtown joints and names. New York was boogying uptown (Minton's Playhouse) and midtown (52d Street) as well. These were mythic times in retrospect, our heros walking between clubs between sets. Taylor's name was on marquees with Ben Webster, Stuff Smith, Machito and Slim Gaillard. Dizzy Gillespie's big band at the Three Deuces. Billie Holiday and Lester Young toasting each other in the

White Rose bar on Sixth Avenue. In 1951, Taylor received a long distance phone call from the pianist Al Haig asking him to cover a rehearsal with Charlie Parker and Strings that afternoon. Afterwards, Taylor hung



Journalist-jazzman Taylor: He interviews, sometimes he plays.

around and ended up opening at Bird-land with Bird that night. This was Bebop Mean Time. He played the rest of the week too. When Bud Powell did not appear as scheduled a few weeks later, the club's manager called Taylor again and it led to what was basically an 18-month Broadway run. On slow nights, Taylor played friendly poker with owner Morris Levy, later to be accused of underworld connections,

who liked jazz musicians. Taylor's doctorate is in education from the University of Massachusetts. Amherst, where he still teaches. In addition to performing and composing, he is an author, teacher, lecturer, actor, and radio and television personality. His compositions have been performed by vocal ensembles, jazz bands, string quartets, brass and woodwind ensembles and symphony orchestras. In May of this year he received honorary doctorates from Illinois, Temple and Rutgers universities. Once he formed a group with Charles Mingus. Nina Simone and Tito Puente recorded his songs. He

traveled to Tokyo with New York City Mayor Ed Koch as part of a "sister city" cultural exchange.

Down Beat magazine voted him into their Hail Of Fame. His "Jazz Alive!" series, carried by 210 out of 225 National Public Radio outlets for five years, was one of NPR's most listened-to shows. Taylor was the founder and for 25 years the president of a subsidized outreach organization called "Jazzmobile" which produced free concerts and clinics in deprived neighborhoods of New York City. The Atlanta Symphony Orchestra commissioned him to write a piece he titled "His Name Was Martin," dedicated to the memory of Martin Luther King Jr. He will perform it next month with the Philadelphia Symphony Orchestra. "Homage," his next album, includes a piece commissioned by the Julliard String Quartet.

Wearing his journalist's hat at a jammty angle, he outlined the hook for his interview here: "We've lost Sarah Vaughan and Carmen McRae, so Dee

Dee Bridgewater represents the best of that tradition still active. It struck me that she has had a special opportunity in France, partly because she's taken her career in her own hands but also because American record companies try to steer someone who has had some success to do more or less the same thing next time around. Here she's been allowed to grow. With the kind of drive she has she could probably have done it in the States too, but for a variety of reasons the European audience is more focused. It is still easier to develop artistically over here."

Taylor estimates that there are something like 36,000 student jazz ensembles in the United States, from unior high school to posteraduate levels. They all owe him. But he has cut down on his organizational responsibilities and is pessimistic about arts funding over there: "I never really had enough patience to get through all of those meetings anyway. I did what I could. During the six years that I was on the National Council for the Arts, subsidies allotted to jazz increased from \$50,000 a year to over \$1 million. The reason I've stopped . . ."

He slowed down, weighing his words: "I looked at the way Jesse Helms was able to disrupt the entire NEA [National Endowment for the Arts] by criticizing the federal government for giving so much money to 'pornographic' art. When an individ-ual gets an NEA grant, that translates into future private and local grants. The NEA is a stamp of approval. That's the way the system works. So that when Helms made it seem that Washington was supporting 'decadence,' he threw a monkey wrench into the entire funding cycle. Some people on the council agreed with Helms, many did not take the trouble to think it through, and a lot of them disagreed. The problem was, nobody seemed willing to take a stand.

"Most of all, though, I just decided that I want to play more. I recently changed the personnel in my trio after 29 years. The old guys are friends of mine but for me it was a kind a necessary process of renewal. I want to grow, to keep doing what I've been doing but better and in new ways. I'm in a state of transition."

WEEKEND SKI REPORT

PEOPLE

Olivia Newton-John Resumes Acting Career

After surviving a bout with breast cancer, Olivia Newton John, 46, resumes her acting career Sunday, starring in a television movie with Gregory Harrison. "I really believe that the experience of breast cancer, or the life experience, because everybody has something that has happened to them, it's not what happens to you, it's how you deal with it and what you gain out of it," she said.

Dr. William H. Masters, half of the Masters and Johnson sex research team, is retiring. Masters, who turns 79 on Dec. 27, plans to close the institute he co-founded with his former wife, Virginia Johnson. "At my age, it's time to smell the roses a

little bit," he said in St. Louis.

Daimler-Benz may buy the home where Margaret Mitchell wrote "Gone With The Wind" in Atlanta and restore it before the 1996 Olympics, the Atlanta Constitution reports. The home would be used to entertain guests of the German company during the Olympics.

Milan, home of La Scala, has named a city square after the soprano Maria Callas.

Lady Jean Florde, 74, docsn't. care that she's no longer the Countess of Arran. She sold her hereditary title to a mystery buyer for £450,000 (\$702,800). She will use the money to repair her house. "It needs a lot of work including central heating," she says.

Sir Andrew Lloyd Wehber will team up with the songwiter Jim Steinman to write a film about three children who mistake an escaped convict for Jesus Christ, The musical will be based on the 1962 Hayley Mills film "Whistie Down the Wind."

WEATHER

Forecast for Saturday through Monday, as provided by Accu-Weather. Tomorrow Low W High Low W CF CF CF CF 19:50 sr 14:57 10:50 sn 19:4 sc 7:44 4:39 s 19:7 s 2:55 5:54 cn 3:57 s 12:55 5:40 cn 3:57 s 2:55 5:54 cn 3:57 s 2:55 5:40 cn 3:57 s 2:55 s 2:55 s 1:54 s 2:55

Europe

North America Rein is likely Saturday in New York and Washington D.C., then Sunday and Mon-day will be coldor with per-haps ligness or snow. Toron-to and Chicago will have a bit of snow or flurries over the weekend, then dry, cold weather Monday. Los Ange-les will be dry and mild.

day with perhaps lingering showers. Pans will be dry Seturday, then a faw showers are possible Sanday into Monday. Spain will remain dry and mild through Monday. Spain will remain dry and mild through Monday. Showers are possible in Rome Soturday.

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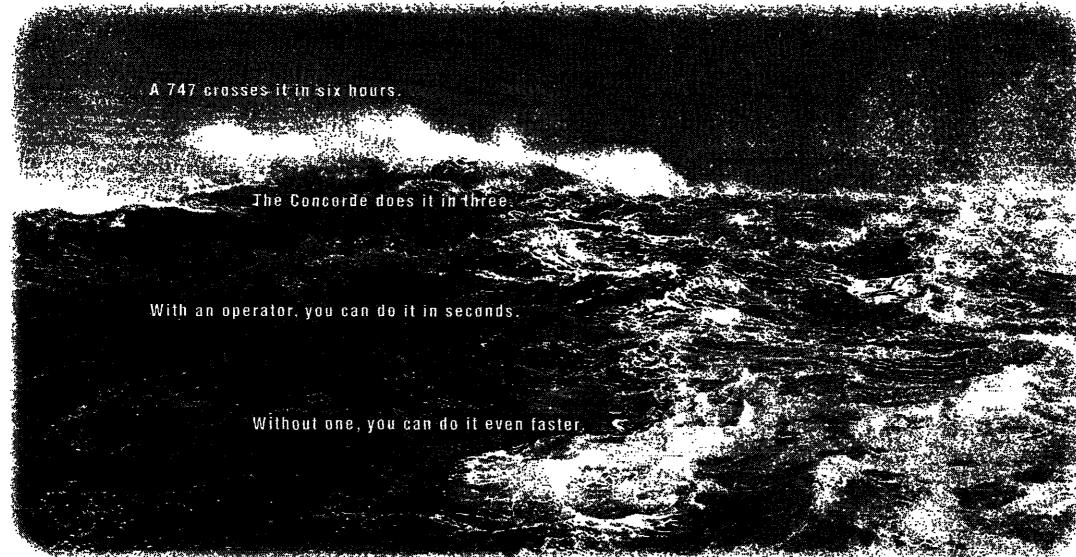
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